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A Curious ACCOUNT *of the* KING OF PRUSSIA *with ſome Intereſting* ANECDOTES *of that Monarch From a View of Society and Manners in France, Switzerland, and Germany. By* Dr Moore*.

WHEN we firſt arrived at Potſdam, there was nothing I was ſo eager to ſee as the Pruſſian troops at their exerciſe; but the reviews at Berlin have completely ſatiated my curioſity. And though the gardens of the palace are juſt oppoſite to the windows of our inn, I hardly ever go to look at the guards, who are paraded there every forenoon. A few days ago, however, I happened to take a very early walk about a mile out of town, and ſeeing ſome ſoldiers under arms, in a field at a ſmall diſtance from the road, I went towards them. An officer on horſeback, whom I took to be the Major, for he gave the word of command, was uncommonly active, and often rode among the ranks to reprimand, or inſtruct the common men. When I came nearer, I was much ſurpriſed to find that this was the King himſelf. He had his ſword drawn, and continued to exerciſe the corps for an hour after. He made them wheel, march, form the ſquare, and fire by diviſions, and in platoons, obſerving all their motions with infinite attention; and, on account of ſome blunder, put two officers of the Prince of Pruſſia's regiment in arreſt.—In ſhort, he ſeemed to exert himſelf with all the ſpirit of a young officer, eager to attract the notice of his General by uncommon alertneſs.

I expreſſed my ſurpriſe to an officer preſent, that the King was not willing to take ſome repoſe, particularly from that kind of employment of which he had ſo very much of late, and that he could take ſo much pains with a mere handful of men immediately after he had come from exerciſing whole armies.

This gentleman told me, that on this particular day, the King had been trying ſome new evolutions; but though this had not been the caſe, he might very poſſibly have been in the field: for his maxim was, that his troops ſhould diſplay as much briſkneſs on a common field day as if they were to engage in battle; and therefore it was never known when he intended to be preſent, or when not;—that as for repoſe, he took it between ten at

* *Travelling Governor to the Duke of Hamilton in* 1774, 1775, *and* 1776.

night and four in the morning, and his other hours were all devoted to action, either of body or mind, or both; and that the exercife he had juft taken was probably by way of relaxation after three hours previous labour in the cabinet.—

The evening of the day on which I had feen the King in the field, I was at Sans-Souci; for I wifh to neglect no opportunity of being prefent where this monarch is. I like to ftand near him, to hear him fpeak, and to obferve his movements, attitudes, and moft indifferent actions. He always behaves with particular affability to the D—e of H——a. One evening before the play began, his Grace and I were ftanding accidentally with Count Finkenftein in a room adjoining to the great apartment where the company were. The King entered alone, when he was not expected, and immediately began a converfation with the Duke.

He afked feveral queftions relative to the Britifh conftitution; particularly at what age a peer could take his feat in parliament?—When the Duke replied, At twenty-one.—It is evident from that, faid the King, that the Englifh Patricians acquire the neceffary talents for legiflation much fooner than thofe of ancient Rome, who are not admitted into the Senate till the age of forty.

He then enquired about the ftate of Lord Chatham's health, and expreffed high eiteem for the character of that miniter.—He afked me, if I had received letters by the laft poft, and if they mentioned any thing of the affairs in America?—He faid, there were accounts from Holland, that the Englifh troops had been driven from Boflon, and that the Americans were in poffeffion of that place.—I told him, our letters informed us, that the army had left Boflon to make an attack with more effect elfewhere.

He fmiled, and faid—If you will not allow the retreat to have been an affair of neceffity, you will at leaft admit that it was *tout-a-fait a-propos*.

He faid, he heard that fome Britifh officers had gone into the American fervice, and mentioned Colonel Lee, whom he had feen at his Court. He obferved, that it was a difficult thing to govern men by force at fuch a diftance;—that if the Americans fhould be beat (which appeared a little problematical), ftill it would be next to impoffible to continue to draw from them a revenue by taxation;—that if we intend conciliation with America, fome of our meafures were too rough; and if we intended its fubjection, they were too gentle. He concluded by faying, *Enfin, Meffieurs, je ne comprends pas ces chofes la; je n'ai point de colonie:—j'efpere que vous vous tirerez bien d'affaire, mais elle me paroit un peu epineufe.*—Having faid this, he walked into the Princefs's apartment to lead her to the playhoufe, and the D—e of H——n and I joined the company already aflembled there. The tragedy of Mahomet was performed, which, in my opinion, is the fineft of all Voltaire's dramatic pieces, and that in which Le Kain appears to the greateft advantage.

The King of Pruffia is below the middle fize, well made, and remarkably active for his time of life; he has become hardy by exercife and a laborious life; for his conftitution originally feems to have been none of the ftrongeft. His look announces fpirit and penetration. He has fine blue eyes; and, in my opinion, his countenance upon the whole is agreeable. Some who have feen him are of a different opinion. All who judge from his portraits only muft be fo; for altho' I have feen many which have a little refemblance of him, and fome which have a great deal, yet none of them do him juftice. His features acquire a wonderful degree of animation while he converfes.—This is entirely loft upon canvas.

He ftoops confiderably, and inclines his head almoft conftantly to one fide.

His tone of voice is the cleareft and moft agreeable in converfation I ever heard.

He fpeaks a great deal; yet thofe who hear him regret that he does not fpeak a great deal more. His obfervations are always lively, very often juft, and few men poffefs the talent of repartee in greater perfection.

He hardly ever varies his drefs, which conifts of a blue coat lined and faced with red, and a yellow waiftcoat and breeches. He always wears boots, with huffar tops, which fall in wrinkles about his ancles, and are oftener of a dark brown than a black colour.

His hat would be thought extravagantly large in England, though it is of a fize commonly ufed by the Pruffian officers of cavalry. He generally wears one of the large fide corners over his forehead and eyes, and the front cock at one fide.

He wears his hair cued behind, and dreffed with a fingle buckle on each fide. From their being carelefsly put up and

unequally powdered, we may naturally conclude, that the friſeur has been greatly hurried in the execution of his office.

He uſes a very large gold ſnuff-box, the lid ornamented with diamonds, and takes an immoderate quantity of Spaniſh ſnuff, the marks of which very often appear on his waiſtcoat and breeches. Theſe are alſo liable to be ſoiled by the paws of two or three Italian greyhounds, which he often careſſes.

He dreſſes as he gets up in the morning. This takes up but a few minutes, and leaves for the whole day.—You have often heard that the King of Pruſſia's hours, from four or five in the morning, till ten at night, are all dedicated methodically to particular occupations, either of buſineſs or amuſement. This is certainly true, and the arrangement has not ſuffered ſuch an interruption for many years, as ſince the preſent company came to Potſdam.—

All buſineſs with the King is tranſacted by letters. Every petition or propoſal muſt be made in this form, which is adhered to ſo invariably, as I have been aſſured, that if any of his Generals wiſhed to promote a cadet to the rank of enſign, he would not venture to make his propoſal in any other manner, even tho' he had daily opportunities of converſing with his Majeſty.

The meaneſt of his ſubjects may apply to him in writing, and are ſure of an anſwer. His firſt buſineſs every morning is the peruſing the papers addreſſed to him. A ſingle word wrote with his pencil on the margin, indicates the anſwer to be given, which is afterwards made out in form by ſecretaries.—This method affords the King time to deliberate on the juſtice and propriety of every demand, and prevents the poſſibility of his being ſurpriſed into a promiſe, which it might be inconvenient to perform.

He ſits down to dinner preciſely at noon. Of late he allows more time to this repaſt than formerly. It is generally after three before he leaves the company. Eight or nine of his officers are commonly invited to dine with him.

At table, the King likes that every perſon ſhould appear to be on a footing, and that the converſation ſhould be carried on with perfect freedom. The thing, by the way, is impoſſible. That confidential unreſtrained flow of the heart, which takes place in a ſociety of equals, is a pleaſure which a deſpotic Prince can never taſte, However, his Majeſty deſires that it may be ſo, and they make the beſt of it they can.—

It is abſolutely impoſſible for any man to enjoy an office in the King of Pruſſia's ſervice, without performing the duty of it. He is himſelf active and aſſiduous, and he makes it a point that all his miniſters and ſervants ſhall be ſo too. But to thoſe who know their buſineſs, and perform it exactly, he is an eaſy and equitable maſter.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

To the Right Hon. the Lords NORTH *and* GERMAINE.

MY LORDS,

A QUESTION of the higheſt importance, both to this country and my own, having been lately touched upon in Parliament, give me leave to make a few remarks upon the ſentiments you expreſſed on that occaſion:—I mean the terms of reconciliation held out to America by the Britiſh legiſlature: And it muſt fill every honeſt breaſt with indignation to hear you declaring them to be no longer binding upon this country than while her intereſt makes it neceſſary to offer them. At the time of paſſing the bill upon which thoſe conceſſions were founded, your affairs in America wore the moſt diſmal aſpect. The people of that continent, united in defence of their liberties, and ſworn to oppoſe the encroachments of the parent ſtate, were hitherto invincible. To what purpoſe did you ſend over army after army? and why did thoſe armies remove from province to province? They went either to be driven from the walls of Boſton—or glorioufly to fall upon the plains of Saratoga—or baſely to deſert Pennſylvania, after having ſeduced its inhabitants, by promiſes of freedom and protection, once more to ſubmit to the Britiſh yoke. Legions of men were ſent over only to ſpend millions of money; and no impreſſion was made upon the colonies, reſolved either to die or be free, until thoſe terms were tendered to them, to obtain which they had taken up arms.

But from the moment the Commiſſioners arrived in America, the power of the Congreſs has been upon the decline. Thoſe virtuous citizens, who, till then, had ſtopped the progreſs of your armies,

no ſooner ſaw that all was offered for which they had been contending, than they began to flock to your ſtandard, and to turn their arms againſt the Congreſs, under whoſe banners they had formerly fought ſo ſucceſsfully againſt your's. Till that period they ſtruggled with all the difficulties which ſurrounded them, without repining at the loſs of their former affluence and eaſe, and gloriouſly encountered all the horrors of war, rendered ſweet by a conviction of the juſtice of their cauſe. This change in the minds of the people has produced alſo a happy change in the complexion of your affairs. But, inſtead of making you ſenſible that America can be united with Britain by no other bond than that of affection, it has encouraged you (happily, I hope, for my country, but, perhaps, too ſoon for your's) to throw off the maſk, and once more to avow to the world thoſe very ſentiments and intentions which have been the occaſion of the war.

An exemption from taxation, my Lords, is not the only privilege for which the Americans have fought. That, however, the difficulties of your affairs obliged you to concede to them; and that alſo I doubt not but you would retract, were it in your power to trample under foot a Britiſh act of parliament, with the ſame impunity that you have violated thoſe laws which ſhould have governed America. And flimſy indeed are the grounds upon which you proceed! Could any attorney in Weſtminſter-hall have hit upon a more refined quirk than that which one of your Lordſhips (Lord George Germaine) is obliged to have recourſe to?—He acknowledges, "that the Commiſſioners in their laſt manifeſto had declared, *that in every poſſible ſituation of affairs* they would adhere to the terms offered,"—yet inſiſts, "that they *meant* only that they would adhere to thoſe terms *while their commiſſion laſted.*" This repugnancy muſt ſtrike every man. The Commiſſioners had authority, in the name of the legiſlature, to offer terms which were for ever to be adhered to; and yet the commiſſion was not to be perpetual. Thoſe promiſes were made by the Britiſh nation—by the mouths of the Commiſſioners—and not by thoſe Gentlemen, as promiſes which they had no authority to make, but which they would *afterwards endeavour* to prevail upon Britain to perform. To argue in this manner is to ſay, That if all America had come into the terms tendered them by the Commiſſioners, this country would have been releaſed from them upon the expiration of the commiſſion: Or, in other words, That you would have deluded the coloniſts with fair promiſes; but that, as ſoon as you had once more firmly eſtabliſhed your government among them, you would have kept them in ſubjection by a ſtanding army, and have domineered over them at will. *Comperior illos Punica fide egiſſe.*

Give me leave now to ſay a few words upon the latter part of Lord North's ſpeech.—"He owns, that if any individual had joined the royal ſtandard, and renounced all allegiance to the Congreſs, on the ſtrength of the Commiſſioners' offers, that individual had certainly a claim to every advantage offered by the Commiſſioners, in the fulleſt extent, and ſhould enjoy it as far as an *individual* could." But how, my Lord, are you to make this *gracious* diſtinction? The Americans have been fighting, not for places and penſions, but in defence of the ſacred rights of their country. Traitors, it is true, are to be found in every community. But you are miſtaken, if you imagine thoſe men who have joined the royal ſtandard have done it from ſuch infamous motives. They fought againſt you as long as they were convinced juſtice was upon their ſide. When you offered them all for which they had taken up arms, they began again to feel the force of thoſe ties by which they were formerly, and might now be bound to the parent ſtate, and have flocked in thouſands to your ſtandards. But thoſe very men ſeem in great danger of being once more driven to the hard alternative, either of fighting from principle againſt a people whom their affections lead them to conſider as brethren, or of receiving, at the feet of a conqueror, ſuch terms as his compaſſion may dictate to him. Hard indeed then muſt be their caſe, whoſe ſhackles were of their own forging; and who have, beſides, been the deluded inſtruments of their country's ſlavery!

What, my Lord, has Georgia to expect from you? You were invited to that province by the bulk of its inhabitants, brought over to your ſide by the terms held out to them. They now ſeem, almoſt to a man, amicably affected to your government. But becauſe the ringleaders of revolt among them, fond of their

power, did not chuſe to reſign it into your hands; and the people, overawed by the forces of the Congreſs, dared not openly declare for you immediately upon receiving your propoſals of accommodation; for theſe reaſons they are all alike to be conſidered as conquered rebels.—Is it poſſible to hear with patience the Secretary of State declaring, "that, provided the Americans would ſuppliantly aſk, he would not ſay that he would not do from *generoſity* what he was not obliged by juſtice to perform?" Deplorable indeed muſt be our condition, if he is to be the arbiter of our fate!—After an expenſive and bloody war of five years, is he ſtill to learn that this country can never hold America by force?

I am, my Lords,
Your Lordſhips' moſt
obedient ſervant,
An AMERICAN.

April 12. 1779.

An ESSAY *on* TAXES.—*By the late* David Hume, *Eſq;*

THERE is a maxim that prevails among thoſe whom in this country we call *ways and means men*, and who are denominated *Financiers*, and *Malotiers* in France, "That every new tax creates a new ability in the ſubject to bear it, and that each increaſe of public burdens increaſes proportionally the induſtry of the people." This maxim is of ſuch a nature as is moſt likely to be abuſed, and is ſo much the more dangerous, that its truth cannot be altogether denied; but it muſt be owned, when kept within certain bounds, to have ſome foundation in reaſon and experience.

When a tax is laid upon commodities which are conſumed by the common people, the neceſſary conſequence may ſeem to be, that either the poor muſt retrench ſomething of their way of living, or raiſe their wages ſo as to make the burden of the tax fall entirely upon the rich. But there is a third conſequence, which very often follows upon taxes, viz. that the poor increaſe their induſtry, perform more work, and live as well as before, without demanding more for their labour. Where taxes are moderate, are laid on gradually, and affect not the neceſſaries of life, this conſequence naturally follows; and it is certain that ſuch difficulties often ſeem to excite the induſtry of a people, and render them more opulent and laborious than others who enjoy the greateſt advantages. For we may obſerve as a parallel inſtance, that the moſt commercial nations have not always poſſeſſed the greateſt extent of fertile land; but, on the contrary, that they have laboured under many natural diſadvantages. Tyre, Athens, Carthage, Rhodes, Genoa, Venice, Holland are ſtrong examples to this purpoſe. And in all hiſtory we find only three inſtances of large and fertile countries which have poſſeſſed much trade; the Netherlands, England, and France. The two former ſeem to be allured by the advantages of their maritime ſituation, and the neceſſity they lay under of frequenting foreign ports, in order to procure what their own climate refuſed them. And as to France, trade has come very late into that kingdom, and ſeems to have been the effect of reflection and obſervation in an ingenious and enterpriſing people, who remarked the immenſe riches acquired by ſuch of the neighbouring nations as cultivated navigation and commerce.

Exorbitant taxes, like extreme neceſſity, deſtroy induſtry, by producing deſpair; and even before they reach this pitch, they raiſe the wages of the labourer and manufacturer, and heighten the price of all commodities. An attentive diſintereſted legiſlature will obſerve the point when the emolument ceaſes, and the prejudice begins; but as the contrary character is much more common, it is to be feared that taxes all over Europe are multiplying to ſuch a degree, as will entirely cruſh all art and induſtry; though perhaps their firſt increaſe, together with other circumſtances, might have contributed to the growth of thoſe advantages.

The beſt taxes are ſuch as are levied upon conſumptions, eſpecially thoſe of luxury; becauſe ſuch taxes are leſs felt by the people. They ſeem in ſome meaſure voluntary, ſince a man may chuſe how far he will uſe the commodity which is taxed. They are paid gradually and inſenſibly, and being confounded with the natural price of the commodity, they are ſcarcely perceived by the conſumers: their only diſadvantage is, that they are expenſive in the levying.

Taxes upon poſſeſſions are levied without expence, but have every other diſadvantage. Moſt ſtates, however, are obliged to have recourſe to them, in order to ſupply the deficiencies of the other.

But the moſt pernicious of all taxes are thoſe which are arbitrary. They are commonly converted by their management into puniſhments on induſtry; and alſo, by their unavoidable inequality, are more grievous than by the real burden which they impoſe. It is ſurpriſing, therefore, to ſee them have place among any civilized people.

In general all poll taxes, even when not arbitrary, which they commonly are, may be eſteemed dangerous, becauſe it is ſo eaſy for the ſovereign to add a little more and a little more to the ſum demanded, that theſe taxes are apt to become altogether oppreſſive and intolerable. On the other hand, a duty upon commodities checks itſelf, and a prince will ſoon find that an increaſe of the impoſt is no increaſe of his revenue. It is not eaſy, therefore, for a people to be ruined altogether by ſuch taxes.

There is a prevailing opinion, that all taxes, however levied, fall upon the land at laſt. Such an opinion may be uſeful in Britain, by checking the landed gentlemen, in whoſe hands our legiſlature is lodged, and making them preſerve great regard for trade and induſtry; but I muſt confeſs, that this principle, though firſt advanced by a celebrated writer, has ſo little appearance of reaſon, that were it not for his authority, it had never been received by any body. Every man, to be ſure, is deſirous of puſhing off from himſelf the burden of any tax which is impoſed, and laying it upon others; but as every man has the ſame inclination, and is upon the defenſive, no ſet of men can be ſuppoſed to prevail altogether in this conteſt. And why the landed gentleman ſhould be the victim of the whole, and ſhould not be able to defend himſelf as well as others are, I cannot readily imagine. All tradeſmen indeed would willingly prey upon him, and divide him among them if they could; but this inclination they would always have tho' no taxes were levied; and the ſame methods by which he guards againſt the impoſition of tradeſmen before taxes, will ſerve him afterwards, and make them ſhare the burden with him.

I ſhall conclude this ſubject with obſerving, that we have, with regard to taxes, an inſtance of what frequently happens in political inſtitutions, that the conſequences of things are diametrically oppoſite to what we ſhould expect on the firſt appearance. It is regarded as a fundamental maxim of the Turkiſh government, that the Grand Signior, though abſolute maſter of the lives and fortunes of each individual, has no authority to impoſe a new tax; and every Ottoman prince who has made ſuch an attempt, either has been obliged to retract, or has found the fatal effects of his perſeverance.

One would imagine that though prejudice or eſtabliſhed opinion were the firmeſt barrier in the world againſt oppreſſion, yet it is certain that its effect is quite contrary; that emperor having no regular method of increaſing his revenue, muſt allow all the baſhaws and governors to oppreſs and abuſe the ſubjects, and theſe he ſqueezes after their return from their governments: whereas, if he could impoſe a new tax, like our European princes, his intereſt would be ſo far united with that of his people, that he would immediately feel the bad effects of theſe diſorderly levies of money, and would find that a pound raiſed by general impoſition would have leſs pernicious effects than a ſhilling taken in ſo unequal and arbitrary a manner.

STORY *of* ARISTOCLEA, *from* PLUTARCH.

ARISTOCLEA, the daughter of Theophanes, was celebrated all over Greece for her virtue, her beauty, and her accompliſhments. Merit, ſo conſpicuous as her's, could not but attract the regard of the Grecian youth, ever ſuſceptible of the fineſt emotions of love. Among the reſt of her admirers, Strato and Calliſthenes were ſo happy as to obtain peculiar marks of diſtinction.

Strato had all the recommendations which wealth and power could beſtow, and to do him juſtice, was not entirely deſtitute of perſonal merit. The only objection, which could with the appearance of reaſon be made to him, was, that he was conſiderably advanced beyond that period which is called the flower of youth; an objection which commonly has great weight in a female heart.

Calliſthenes yielded to Strato in fortune, intereſt, and family: but his perſon was more engaging, his manners more polite, and his acquirements more agreeable. There was a peculiar modeſty in his addreſs, which probably might be encreaſed by a conſciouſneſs of the ſmallneſs of his fortune: but this circumſtance

tended to promote his intereſt; for however it depreſſed his ſpirit, it taught him that ſubmiſſive ſoftneſs which made him appear amiable in the eyes of Ariſtoclea.

Strato, it muſt be confeſſed, was the more ardent lover, and his paſſion had been enflamed by the accidental ſight of his fair charmer while ſhe was bathing, one ſummer morning, in a little rivulet that glided thro' her father's garden.

Calliſthenes, perhaps in reality, felt as ſtrong a paſſion as his rival, yet was he leſs aſſiduous in his addreſſes, from deſpair of ſucceeding againſt a competitor ſo much his ſuperior in rank and fortune.

Theophanes, the father of Ariſtoclea, was much embarraſſed by the importunities of the two lovers, but would gladly have given his conſent to him whoſe poſſeſſions were the largeſt, had he not been cautious of interfering in the choice of his daughter. After many delays, it was at laſt agreed, on all ſides, to refer the affair to a neighbour of great wiſdom and experience, by whoſe deciſion it was reſolved to abide.

In the mean time, Strato was informed by a confidant of Ariſtoclea, whom he had bribed with liberal preſents, that he poſſeſſed the firſt place in the affections of his miſtreſs. Animated by this intelligence, he determined to break off the agreement of referring the affair to a ſtranger, and to leave it to be decided by the moſt proper judge, Ariſtoclea herſelf. Calliſthenes readily acceded to the propoſal, from a conviction, that if he ſtood any chance, it would be only from the deciſion from the fair object of his love. The father, who had previouſly been aſſured by Strato, that his daughter had ſhown him a preference, entered without heſitation into the agreement, and appointed an early day for the final determination.

During this uneaſy interval, various were the emotions of the two lovers. Strato already anticipated his happineſs, and wantoned in imagination on all the charms of his miſtreſs. Calliſthenes, on the contrary, felt all the pain and anguiſh of ſuſpended hope.

At length the important hour arrived. Strato approached to hear his doom with a ſmile of confidence; Calliſthenes in all the dejection of deſpair. How ſuddenly were their ſeveral emotions exchanged, when the lovely fair one declared in favour of the deſponding Calliſthenes! Strato, however, after many efforts, got the better of his amazement and chagrin, aſſumed an air of chearfulneſs, and beſought the happy pair to grant him one requeſt, which was to permit him to be preſent at the nuptial ceremony. A requeſt ſo reaſonable, none could deny; and amidſt the congratulations of the whole company, the next day was fixed for completing the union.

The next day arrived, and the lovely pair appeared adorned with all the charms of beauty, and the ſmiles of innocence and joy. Strato ſeemed not the leaſt happy on the occaſion: but the ſcene was ſoon changed to melancholy and deſpair. On a ſudden, at a ſignal given by Strato, a company of armed men ruſhed from an ambuſcade, and ſeized the unhappy Calliſthenes. Strato endeavoured to run away with the lovely maid; but while ſhe was ſtruggling in his arms, ſhe fainted away, and, in the violence of her agitation, fell lifeleſs to the ground. Calliſthenes was never heard of more, and Strato concluded the cataſtrophe by plunging a dagger into his own breaſt, and falling on the body of the unfortunate Ariſtoclea.

DIRECTIONS *for making the beſt Compoſition for the Metals of Reflecting Teleſcopes; together with a Deſcription of the Proceſs of grinding, poliſhing, and giving the great Speculum the true parabolic Curve. By Mr* John Mudge. [P. 59.]

HAVING now finiſhed the metal on the hones, and rendered it, both in point of figure and ſurface, fit for the laſt and moſt eſſential proceſs, viz. that of poliſhing, I will deſcribe it in the beſt manner I can; though many little circumſtances which will be unavoidably omitted (and which, at the ſame time, are frequently eſſential to the ſucceſs of a mechanic proceſs) can only be ſupplied by actual experience.

The poliſhing the ſpeculum is the moſt difficult and eſſential part of the whole proceſs; for every experienced workman knows, to his vexation, that the moſt trifling error here will be ſufficient to ſpoil the figure of his metal, and render all his preceding caution uſeleſs. I have, however, diſcovered a method which I ſhall explain, not only of giving the metal a parabolic figure, but alſo of recovering it when it happens to be injured; both to be effected in the act of poliſhing, and the former as certainly as the ſphe-

real figure is given upon the hones. Indeed, if we conſider rightly, poliſhing will be perceived to be but a kind of grinding with a finer order of ſtrokes, and with a powder infinitely finer than was before uſed in what is commonly called the grinding. But before I deſcribe this method which was the reſult of many years experience, I will take the liberty of making ſome few ſtrictures on that of Meſſrs Hadley and Molyneux, which is followed by the generality of workmen.

Firſt, then, the tool itſelf uſed by them for poliſhing the metal, is formed with infinite difficulty. The firſt deſcribed poliſher is directed to be made by covering the tool with farcenet, which is to be ſaturated with a ſolution of pitch in ſpirit of wine, by ſucceſſive application of it with a broſh, till it is covered, and by the evaporation of the ſpirit of wine filled with this extract of pitch; the ſurface is then to be worked down and finiſhed with the bruiſer. This is all very eaſy in imagination; but whoever has uſed this method (which I have myſelf unſucceſsfully ſeveral times) muſt have found it attended with infinite labour, and at laſt the buſineſs done in a very unſatisfactory manner: for the pitch by this proceſs will be deprived of an eſſential part of its compoſition. The ſpirit of wine diſſolves none but the reſinous parts of its ſubſtance, which is hard and untractable; and if you uſe ſoap or ſpirit of wine to ſoften or diſſolve it, it will equally affect the whole ſurface, the lower as well as higher parts of it. And ſuppoſe that, with infinite labour with the bruiſer, it is at laſt reduced to a fine uniform ſurface, it is nevertheleſs too hard ever to give a good poliſh with that luſtre which is always ſeen in Mr Short's, and indeed all other good metals. Nor will it give a good ſpherical figure; for a perfect ſphere is formed, as I obſerved before, by that intimate accommodation ariſing from the wear and yielding of both tool and metal; whereas in this method, there is ſuch a ſtubborneſs in the poliſher, that the figure of the metal, good or bad, muſt depend upon the truth of the former, which is very ſeldom perfect.

If the poliſher be made in the ſecond manner propoſed, by ſtraining the pitch through an outer covering, which is afterwards to be ſtripped off, the ſuperficies of pitch and farcenet is ſo very thin, that the putty, working into them, forms a ſurface hard and untractable, ſo that it is impoſſible to give the ſpeculum a fine poliſh. Accordingly all thoſe metals which are wrought that way, have an order of ſcratches inſtead of poliſh, diſcovering itſelf by a greyiſh viſible ſurface. Beſides, ſuppoſing this tool perfectly finiſhed, and anſwering its purpoſe ever ſo well, it is impoſſible it can produce in the ſpeculum any other than a ſpherical figure; and indeed nothing elſe is expected from this method, as very evidently appears by the experiment recommended to aſcertain the truth of the figure. You are directed to place a ſmall luminous object in the center of the ſphere of which the metal is a ſegment, and then having adjuſted an eye-glaſs at the diſtance of its own focal length from the object, and ſo ſituated that the image of the object formed by the ſpeculum may be viſible to the eye, you are to judge of the perfect figure of the metal by the ſharpneſs and diſtinctneſs with which the image appears. From hence it is very evident, that as the object and image are both diſtant from the metal by exactly its radius, nothing but a true ſpherical figure of the ſpeculum can produce a ſharp diſtinct image; and that the image could not be diſtinct if the figure of the ſpeculum were parabolic. Conſequently, if the ſame ſpeculum uſed in a teleſcope were to receive parallel rays, there would neceſſarily be a conſiderable aberration produced, and a conſequent imperfection in the image. Accordingly there never was a good teleſcope made in this manner; for if the number of degrees, or the portion of the ſphere of which the great metal is a part, were as conſiderable as it ought to be, or as great as Mr Short allowed in his metal, the inſtrument would bear but a very low charge, unleſs a great part of the circumference of the metal were cut off by an aperture, and the ill effects of the aberration by that means in ſome meaſure prevented.

If ever a finiſhed metal turned out without this defect, and has been found perfectly ſharp and diſtinct, it muſt have been owing to an accidental parabolic tendency, noways the natural reſult of the proceſs, and therefore quite unexpected, and moſt probably unknown to the workman.

Without enlarging, therefore, on the difficulty of the above proceſs, and the impoſſibility of giving the ſpeculum the correctneſs and the kind of figure eſſen-

tially neceſſary to a good teleſcope, I will deſcribe (by way of introduction to the ſucceeding directions) the ſteps by which I was led to a certain and eaſy method of giving a proper and correct parabolic figure to the metal, even though it came off imperfect from the hones, and an exquiſite poliſh at the ſame time.

Having made many efforts in the former method, which by no means pleaſed me for the reaſons above-mentioned; and having obſerved, from Mr Short's teleſcopes, which fell into my hands, that the high luſtre of the poliſh could never have been produced in the manner above-deſcribed, but by ſome ſofter and more tender ſubſtance; and at the ſame time recollecting, that Sir Iſaac Newton had given an account in his Optics of his having finiſhed ſome metals, and conſiderably mended the object glaſs of a refractor, by working both upon a tool whoſe ſurface had been covered with common pitch, about the thickneſs of a groat; reflecting, I ſay, upon theſe matters (coarſe and uncertain as this method appeared at firſt ſight), I was determined to try whether I could not get rid of my embarraſſment, by a mode of operation ſomewhat ſimilar. Accordingly, ſhortening Dr Smith's proceſs, I made a ſet of tools in the manner before deſcribed, except that I was obliged to make ſome ſubſequent alteration in the poliſher, which I ſhall preſently deſcribe. Having given a good ſpherical figure to the braſs tool and the bruiſer, and likewiſe to the metal upon the hones, and made the braſs convex tool ſo hot as juſt not to hurt the finger, I tied a lump of common pitch (which ſhould be neither too hard nor too ſoft) in a rag, and holding it in a pair of tongs over a ſtill fire where there was no riſing duſt, till it was ready to ſtrain through the linen, I cauſed it to drop upon the ſeveral parts of the convex tool, till I ſuppoſed it would cover the whole ſurface about double the thickneſs of a ſhilling; then ſpreading the pitch as equally as I could, I ſuffered the poliſher (by which name I ſhall for the future call this tool) to grow quite cold. I then warmed the bruiſer ſo hot as almoſt to burn my fingers, and having fixed it to the bench with its face upwards, I ſuddenly placed the poliſher upon it, and quickly ſlid it off; by this means rend ring the ſurface of the pitch more equal. The pitch is then to be wiped off from the bruiſer with a little tow; and by touching the ſurface with a tallow candle, and wiping it a ſecond time, it will be then perfectly clean and fit for a ſecond proceſs of the ſame ſort, which muſt again be performed as quickly as poſſible; and this is ordinarily ſufficient to give a general figure to the ſurface of the pitch. The bruiſer and poliſher are then ſuffered to grow perfectly cold, when the pitch, conſidering what has been taken off, will be about the thickneſs a ſhilling.

[*To be continued.*]

Further REMARKS *on* OSTENTATION *and* BENEVOLENCE, *introductory to the Sequel of the Clerk's Speech on that Subject; with a freſh Proof drawn from* Philoſophus's *Critical Eſſay.*

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

AS you have publiſhed the *firſt* part of my Speech in favours of *Oſtentation*, I muſt certainly ſend you the *ſequel:* But I really believe I had better never meddled with ſuch a *malevolent* ſubject. You cannot imagine how much *perſecution* I have ſuffered for it ſince it was delivered, Sir. I am reckoned worſe than a Turk, a Hottentot, or an *Ethiopian Savage*, for ſaying, that all mankind are not naturally benevolent. My very friends will hardly ſpeak to me, Sir. One of them told me very ſeriouſly t'other night, "I could not be a *Chriſtian* if I entertained ſuch ſentiments of mankind.—Charity (added he) is the characteriſtic of the true Chriſtian, and "*Charity* thinketh no *evil*."—"True, ſaid I, and I *think no evil* of you or any man, till I find you guilty; but remember, "Charity rejoiceth not in *iniquity*, but in the *truth*." If there is any truth in hiſtory,—nay if we are not wilfully blind to daily experience and obſervation, we muſt ſee that the majority of mankind are not actuated by benevolence." Knowing my friend was a firm *American*, I aſked him in a whiſper, Whether he thought the majority in the two H——s of P——t were actuated by benevolence?—Whereupon he d——d the M——y and their majorities both, and ſwore he believed I was right.

Another attacked me very ſeverely, and inſiſted, that "I aſſumed the prerogative of God in judging men's hearts." But unluckily he did not argue long, till he fell into the very ſame fault of which

he accuſed me: For, after adducing the late Squire Hume's charitable actions, as a convincing proof of benevolence exiſting even where religion was wanting, —(all which, however, I attributed ſolely to the philoſopher's *oſtentation*,) he added,—"As for your *profeſſors* of *religion* in general, I believe the *majority* o. them are *hypocrites*; for I ſeldom find them very willing to draw their purſes to relieve the indigent!"—"A very *charitable* concluſion indeed!" ſaid I—"Then if that is your ſentiment, Sir, you muſt yield your argument at once. For if the majority of thoſe, who *ought* to be ſwayed by the *beſt* principles, act ſolely from oſtentation, 'tis an abſolute impoſſibility that the reſt of mankind can act from any better principle." Thus effectually ſilenced my opponent, who was glad to change the converſation to a more agreeable ſubject.

In ſhort, Mr Printer, proofs of my propoſition are ſo numerous, as well as ſo obvious, that I am amazed they do not readily occur to every one. If benevolence were natural to man, would ever ſuch ſavage amuſements as were anciently exhibited by the gladiators at the Circus and Olympic games, have been viewed with pleaſure by the civilized Greeks and Romans!—Or would cock-fighting, bull-baiting, and other barbarous diverſions ſtill conſtitute a part of the public entertainments of countries called *Chriſtian*? If oſtentation were not a much more prevalent principle, there could never have exiſted ſuch a monſter in the commercial world, as a fraudulent bankrupt;—or ſuch a mean invidious character in the literary line as an *anonymous detractor*. Oſtentation is the ſpring of emulation in every line of life, Sir: And as the witty Dean of St Patrick's remarks,

> "*Her end when Emulation miſſes,*
> *She turns to envy, ſtings and hiſſes.*"

Inſtances of this amongſt authors and *authorlings* are innumerable:

> "*Never did author ſpare his brother,*
> *Wits are game-cocks to one another.*"

Your laſt Number affords one where I would leaſt have looked for it. Your correſpondent *Philoſophus* outſhines *me* ſo much in the *Pantheon*, as a *ſpeaker*, that I could hardly have ſuſpected he would have entertained any *jealouſy* of me as a *writer*. But,

> "*What author would not grieve to ſee*
> *His brother write as well as he?*"

That *he* does ſo, is evident, from the introduction to his *oration*, (which, by the bye, he endeavours to *palm* upon you as a *critical eſſay* occaſioned by my ſpeech), wherein, as the Twickenham bard ſays, he

> "*D——s with* faint praiſe, *aſſents with*
> civil leer,
> *And, without ſneering, teaches folks to*
> ſneer."

It would doubtleſs be an unpardonable piece of preſumption in ſuch a *ſon* of *Vulcan* as your humble ſervant, to ſuppoſe himſelf ſuperior, in point of "*correctneſs* and *taſte* in compoſition," to ſo *great* a philoſopher as your correſpondent. And yet methinks, were *Philoſophus* and *Faber Aurarius* both *impannelled* before a court of *rhetoric*, to be tried by a jury of philoſophers and orators, for treſpaſſing againſt the criterion of *taſte*, and the *greateſt criminal only* to be *condemned*, I might expect a *verdict* in *my* favours, even if the proofs were to be taken from the ſpeeches already inſerted in your Magazine. But ſhould *my counſel* be allowed to plead, that theſe my ſaid orations were the worſt finiſhed pieces I ever printed, (having now no leiſure for *poliſhing* as formerly,) and to prove, that of *Philoſophus* the very *beſt* he has as yet publiſhed, I would certainly come off as clear as Admiral Keppel; and your correſpondent might be thankful, if, like Sir Hugh Palliſer, he ſhould be permitted to bring on a new trial, and adduce freſh *exculpatory* proof.

To point out the *uncommon beauties* of a piece already under the eye of your critical readers, would be ſuperfluous; but I muſt own, the idea ſuggeſted in the beginning of the 3d paragraph, [P. 39.], of "a ſtructure having *members*," has at leaſt the charms of *novelty*, if it wants thoſe of *correctneſs*, to recommend it. A writer of a leſs "*delicate taſte*" than Philoſophus would have contented himſelf with ſpeaking of the *parts* of a ſtructure; or perhaps would have omitted the metaphor of *building* altogether, and ſimply mentioned the human body and *its* members: But ſuch expreſſions as theſe are by far too *vulgar* for your philoſophical friend, who will rather *uſe freedom* with both ſenſe and grammar than loſe the *delicate ſound* of a well-turned period.

Such trivial inaccuracies are pardonable, however, in compariſon to what appears in a ſentence towards the cloſe, which Philoſophus has *arranged* with ſuch uncommon *rhetorical taſte*, that he has rendered it quite unintelligible—to ſuch as are unacquainted with the hiſtory of ancient Greece. Let any of your *unlearned* readers look to the 7th ſentence of his laſt paragraph [p. 40. col. 1.], and tell me, if they can, whether he means that *Demoſthenes* or *Philip* was "the firmeſt baſis of the Athenian republic."—If Philoſophus gives no better ſpecimen of his *taſte* in *arranging* his materials, I am afraid the famous Profeſſor under whom he has ſtudied will be little obliged to him for his recommendations.

But I muſt not be too ſevere on our philoſopher. *Benevolence* forbids it, although I feel the *oſtentatious* principle very much inclining me. Were I to obey the *latter*, I could point out two of his performances under a different ſignature, which many a mechanic would be aſhamed of. But ſuch an invidious criticiſm might hurt the young D***** much more than it could ſerve the *Man of Buſineſs*. This much, however, juſtice required, to make the philoſopher more cautious for the future, and not allow the filly principle of *oſtentation* to get the better of both friendſhip and benevolence.

As Philoſophus has not offered a ſingle remark upon any part of my ſpeech, except his own *ipſe dixit*, that my propoſed improvement was *abſurd*, I ſhall not meddle with the arguments he has advanced. But, that the *Man of Letters* would have been an improvement on the ſtate of the queſtion, is ſo far from being "abſurd," that it is ſelf-evident. And it is equally evident, that your correſpondent does not underſtand the meaning of the Engliſh word *philoſopher*, when he ſuppoſes it to have as *comprehenſive* a meaning in our language, as his *ſignature* had among the ancient Greeks and Romans.

I need only add, by way of information to your readers, (who might otherwiſe think that I had miſtaken an eſſay for an oration,) that the whole performance (erroneouſly entitled, *Remarks on Faber Aurarius, &c.)*, except the firſt twenty lines, was elegantly delivered from the chair by Mr *Philoſophus*, that ſame evening on which the *long ſpeech* on the ſame ſubject was half-delivered, *half-read* by *Faber*.

The ſhort and inaccurate ſpeech I now preſent you with, as the concluſion of my laſt, will be rendered almoſt as long by this tedious introduction. I doubt not, *Philoſophus* and fifty other ſcribblers will be *benevolent* enough to attack me upon it. But if they do it *to purpoſe*, and convince me by arguments drawn from fact, that I am wrong, I ſhall eſteem myſelf obliged to them: For I aſſure you, it would give me no ſmall pleaſure to ſee juſt cauſe for changing my ſentiments on the ſubject. You'll therefore pleaſe give them the opportunity by inſerting it, and oblige

FABER AURARIUS.

Parliament-Square, April 8. 1779.

[*The ſequel of the Clerk's Speech in our next.*]

To the Landed Man, Farmer, Citizen, and Burgeſs,

CASE *of the* SPINNERS *of* LINEN-YARN *in* SCOTLAND.

THERE is a law, 24th Geo. II. chap. 46. impoſing a duty of one penny a pound weight on all raw or brown linen-yarn imported. This law ſtands at preſent ſuſpended; the duty is diſcontinued or taken off till the end of the preſent ſeſſion of Parliament, by act 10th Geo. III. chap. 38. Application is made for the continuance of the bounties on linen exported, and alſo for diſcontinuing this duty of one penny a pound on raw linen yarn imported;—a bill is brought in accordingly, and is now depending in Parliament.

The obvious conſequence of diſcontinuing or taking off this duty of one penny a pound on linen-yarn imported, is the abſtracting from the earnings of poor ſpinners, at the very time that the linen-weavers (by hand bills and advertiſements) are raiſing the price of their work. The poor ſpinners are never heard of in this application, nor can they act to any purpoſe for their own relief. They did, laſt ſummer, on a ſmall advance in the price of oat-meal, viz. from 10 s. 6 d. to 12 s. 6 d. per boll, commit ſeveral riots, of which the Perth autumn circuit bears teſtimony. Theſe poor people found they could not pay three halfpence a peck of advance on oat-meal, but did not know, that by linen-yarn being imported duty free, they were reduced two-pence or three-pence a-week

in their earnings. Before the unhappy American conteſt, emigration was the mode of relief the ſpinners very much embraced.

It has been an invariable rule, that when a foreign material is neceſſary to be imported into Britain, ſuch material, when improved by any degree of manufacture which could be done in Britain, was charged with duty, which duty role in proportion to the improvement made. This caſe of foreign linen-yarn, duty free, to the hurt of ſpinners, is the only exception.

Wool is imported, duty free; woolen yarn pays duty. Worſted, two or three threads twiſted, a much higher duty.

Cotton wool is duty free; cotton yarn pays duty.

Raw ſilk pays a ſmall duty. If thrown or twiſted, a much higher duty.

Rough flax is duty free; but if dreſſed, pays a very high duty. Linen yarn, while duty free, makes the continued duty on dreſſed flax quite an abſurdity, and ruins the flax-dreſſer jointly with the ſpinner. Even in Ireland, where linen is the ſtaple trade, rough flax is imported duty free; but linen yarn pays duty above a penny the pound weight.

In 1690 an act was made, 2d William and Mary, for diſcouraging the importation of thrown ſilk, and for ſupporting the art of throwing ſilk in this realm, and the poor therein employed. The contraſt between this act and that propoſed regarding the poor ſpinners of flax, is obvious. Thus the ſpinners of woolen-yarn, cotton-yarn, and throwſters of ſilk, in Britain, and the ſpinners of linen-yarn in Ireland, are attended to and encouraged. The poor ſpinners of linen-yarn, by an act to import linen yarn duty free, are the only exception; while, with the ſame breath, a liberal bounty is aſked, and probably will be given, on the exportation of linen, which is the ſtaple manufacture of Scotland.

Has the great woolen manufacture of England ſuffered by the duty impoſed on woolen-yarn and worſted, when imported?

Has the cotton, by the duty on cotton-yarn?

Has the ſilk, by the high duty on thrown ſilk?

The fact is an anſwer to the queſtions. Theſe manufactures are all in proſperity.

Aſk the manufacturer, why he does not attempt to obtain a repeal of the duty on theſe ſorts of yarn? He ſays, in plain Engliſh, It would hurt him; the more ſpinners increaſe, it is the better. There can be no combination amongſt ſpinners; they depend on him for daily employment, he on them for a ſupply of yarn. If he depends on imported yarn, the caprice of a prince may forbid the exportation from his dominions, or tax it high: or a few merchants abroad, or importers at home, may engroſs it, and the manufacturer ſtops.

Aſk the Engliſh landed man regarding taking off thoſe duties? His anſwer is, He has about a hundred ſpinners in the village of Newton; they are ſaid to earn 15 l. a-week; he believes moſt of it is ſpent on his eſtate;—if, by lowering the rate of ſpinning in conſequence of the duties, they will only earn 12 l.; his rent muſt fall; they cannot give the price for the produce of his eſtate, or buy ſo much, but will become like the Scots ſpinners, half fed, and only half cloathed, as he has heard of them being without ſhoes or ſtockings. They, the Scots, are often coming to Parliament, aſking aid for the Scots linen manufacture; yet, from what we can learn, the ſpinners there, the foundation of the manufacture, are in abſolute miſery. Will not the Scots landed man anſwer in the ſame manner? And does he not find the poor ſpinners incapable of buying oat-meal to the full quantity nature requires, and theſe poor oppreſſed people addicted to meal mobs on any advance of price? Does not the citizen and burgeſs of Scotland find, that, owing to the very great levies for the army, &c. the number of poor women and children are increaſed? For this fact, apply to the charity work-houſes. Is it their intereſt, or is it now the time to add to the diſtreſſes of theſe poor women, by lowering the price of their ſpinning? This caſe is not addreſſed to the poor ſpinners; it is to the landed man and farmer, the citizen and burgeſs, whoſe intereſt is concerned. The allowing the preſent act, 10th Geo. III. chap. 38. ſuſpending the duty, to expire, and not renewing any further ſuſpenſion of the duty of one penny a pound on foreign yarn for this Seſſion of Parliament only, will afford the relief wiſhed for.

Had the facts ſet forth been fully known and adverted to, there is no

doubt humanity, as well as intereſt, would long ſince have pleaded in this caſe.

A Friend to the Poor.

GENUINE ANECDOTE.

IN the year 1701, was born Edward James, the ſon of a poor cottager on the New Foreſt, Hampſhire. Ned being a boy of bright parts, was early taken notice of by a gentleman in the neighbourhood, who took him into his family, as an aſſiſtant to the gardener. In this ſituation he lived about two years, when having ſaved money enough to carry him to London, he ſet out, in the full expectation of making his fortune. He had not been in town two days before his appearance procured him a place in the family of an eminent tradeſman in Cornhill. His buſineſs was to pack up, and carry out ſmall parcels. This he executed with great fidelity, and his maſter wiſhed to promote him; but unfortunately Ned could neither read nor write. Theſe difficulties were ſoon got over by the education to be obtained at an evening ſchool; and Ned was advanced to the compting-houſe. In about four years he removed to the ſtation of head clerk to an eminent merchant, with whom he continued five years, when the merchant died, and left him 500 l. in conſideration of his faithful ſervices; recommending to him the care of the buſineſs for an only daughter. This truſt he faithfully diſcharged during eighteen months, at the end of which time the lady voluntarily offered him her hand in marriage. The offer was every way too agreeable to be rejected. The wedding was immediately ſolemnized, and our hero ſoon became one of the moſt conſiderable merchants in London. The fruits of this marriage were two ſons and two daughters. The young ladies were both advantageouſly married; the elder to the ſon of a gentleman juſt returned with a large fortune from the Eaſt-Indies; the younger to a ſon of a wealthy baronet. The younger ſon is now an eminent merchant in Briſtol, and the elder very deſervedly fills a diſtinguiſhed ſeat in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons. Such are the happy effects of honeſt induſtry, and a regular obligingneſs of behaviour.

DROLL ANECDOTE.

AN odd country fellow, who was married to a termagant, going one Sunday to church, heard the miniſter preach from the following words: "Take up your croſs and follow me." Dobſon was extremely attentive to the diſcourſe; and as ſoon as church was done, went home, and taking his wife on his back by force, ran as faſt as he was able after the parſon, who ſeeing how the fellow was laden, aſked him the reaſon. "Why, what a plague, cries Dobſon, has your Reverence forgot already? Did not your Worſhip bid us take up our croſs and follow you? and I am ſure this is the greateſt croſs that I have in the world, an' pleaſe ye."

WE have received Solutions of *Atticus*' Arithmetical Problem [P. 65.] from nine different correſpondents, who all concur in the ſame ſtate of the Farmer's Stock, viz.

19 Oxen at 5l. each, is	L.	95
1 Sheep at 1l. —— is		1
80 Geeſe at 1s. each, is		4
100	L.	100

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

AS I am a great lover of Arithmetic, I was much pleaſed to ſee, in your Magazine of late, ſeveral curious Queſtions. I ſhall beg your indulgence to inſert another Query, and oblige,

Yours, &c.

A GARDINER.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

THREE men, A, B, and C, bought a Grindſtone 36 inches diameter, for which they paid equally, and agreed that A ſhould keep it till he wore off his one-third, then B to have it till he wore his one-third, and C to have the laſt one-third.

I demand, What was the length of the diameter remaining for B and C after A had wore off his one-third? and what was the length of the diameter that remained for C, after B had wore off his one-third?

POETRY.

AN ODE TO MASONRY.

Particularly intended for the Conſecration of any Maſon's Hall or Lodge.

STROPHE.

Recitative and Chorus.

WHAT ſacred ſounds on Zion's top were heard,
When riſing [illegible] new worlds appear'd!
Seraphic [illegible] hail'd the day,
And hail'd Creation's natal day.
Recitative accompanied.
'Twas then Old Chaos ſhook amaz'd
Before th' Almighty's face:
Heav'n and earth aſſum'd their place.
The all-pervading *Hand*
Divided ſea and land:
Then Beauty, Grace, and Order firſt were rais'd.
Chorus.
The Mighty Architect deſign'd
An emblem of his ſpotleſs mind;
Perfection glow'd throughout the whole,
And Harmony was Nature's ſoul.
Air.
Unſkill'd till the great intent,
Once more th' Almighty word was ſent,
To fill the wond'rous *Plan*.
The new-form'd duſt in majeſty aroſe;
And in his Maker's image glows,
Prince of Creation, *Man*.

ANTISTROPHE.

Recitative and Chorus.

Celeſtial ſpirits loudly ſounding,
Holy harps thro' heav'n reſounding,
Sweep the ſtrings with touch divine:
Maſons will the concert join:
While the notes in higheſt ſtrain
Wake all nature to a ſong,
Praiſe to Maſons doth belong;
Maſons, Sons of Art reveal'd,
Tenets pure, tho' deep conceal'd,
Craft and Maſter both extol—while truth and life remain.
Recitative.
Concord's each peculiar Son
Sure will baneful paſſion ſhun;
Unity's the ſtrongeſt pow'r,
Unity can bleſſings ſhow'r.
Air.
O'er a happy band and free;
Such as is fam'd Maſonry.
Benevolence each heart expands,
Continued at the end of Chorus.
Philanthropy extends the willing arm,
To feed—to ſhelter—and to warm
Each, who in need of pity ſtands.

EPODE.

Recitative Accompanied.

Virtue all hail! Before thy ſhrine we bow!
Each our mind with Emulation's fire!
To tread the paths of Heroes let us now
Attempt—and after laſting fame aſpire,
To our endeavours aid divine impart,
And grace the works myſterious of our *Art*.
Air.
Science, gaudieſt plume of Reaſon——
Now to thee in this their dwelling,
Maſons, all mankind excelling,
Yield the palms of grateful praiſe;
And joyful chorus raiſe,
Which ſhall laſt thro' ev'ry ſeaſon.
Chorus.
Long may the Social Band remain,
While Arts and Virtue grace its reign!
Recitative.
Its influence ſhall hold,
Till death doth all enfold.
Air.
Tread gently o'er his ſacred ground——
Here the Dame aſpiring,
Breaſts Maſonic nobly firing,
Leads to Honour—Merit—Glory.
From deep foundations proudeſt ſtructures riſe;
Thence lofty monuments do ſtrike the ſkies,
Such as bear renown in ſtory.
May Bliſs eternal—Pleaſures fair,
Crown the *Compaſs* and the *Square!*
Happy—Happy—Happy—He,
Who taſtes the joys of Maſonry.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

VERSES *to the Memory of* Mr JAMES MOFFAT *of* Dumfries. *Addreſſed to an affectionate Mother.*

'TIS not for me, what time with welcome care
To her night haunts pale Melancholy flies,
With robe unloos'd, and beating boſom bare,
Death on her cheek, diſtraction in her eyes.

'Tis not for me to mourn with grief profuſe,
The youth regreted, or the worth I praiſe,
So to indulge the tributary muſe,
Or to ſuch ſcenes attune her kindlier lays.

Yes, Lycidas! bleſt ſpirit tho' thou be,
Thou'lt ſmile propitious on the pious deed,
Which, from theſe tears, thy hapleſs dame to free,
Struggling defrauds thy venerated ſhade.

O hear me, thou, in whoſe afflicted breaſt
Pines brooding anguiſh, and conſuming cares,
Thou, whoſe wan cheek long, long has ſtood confeſt
The wat'ry channel of a flood of tears.

Hear, and recal the joy, the whim, the mirth,
The hour propitious to the infant's breath;
Then know the hour that gave the infant birth,
Brought it but nearer to the gates of death.

Recal the charming hopes, the throbbing bliſs,
The look of paſſion, the maternal care,

The ſmile of tranſport, the heart-melting kiſs,
The mother's fondneſs, and the mother's pray'r!

What time ſhe in her darling boy ſurvey'd,
Her fears, nor kind ſolicitude in vain;
What time progreſſive, and with annual aid,
Health ſtrung the nerves, and reaſon mark'd him man.

Then let reflection daſh the cup of joy,
Down let it daſh it, while in motely ſtrife
Pale nature ruſhes on the ſick'ning eye,
In all the ſad variety of life.

She, while ſhe bids the ſollen canvaſs glow,
Or dathes deep with ſhade the glowing line,
She ſhews,—alas! compar'd with others woe,
She ſhews a ſpecial happineſs was thine.

See! how all raving in diſtracting thoughts,
Screams that torn mother comfortleſs and wild,
Frantic ſhe flies, or, as a ſtatue, gloats
On the cold image of her infant child.

Stretch'd ſick, and trembling on the verge of death,
See there, ſupine, the long-left mother lie!
The child returns; ſhe pours her parting breath,
Her life and wiſhes in a wiſhful ſigh!

See!—but oppos'd to thine, can griefs like theſe,
Can theſe not prompt a philoſophic part;
Can theſe not with exalted virtue raiſe
To conſcious gratitude the whiſp'ring heart.

O then behold, while o'er the raptur'd ſoul,
Effuſing wide, inſufferable light,
Religion bids her faithful viſions roll
The ſcene, how wond'rous, beautiful, and bright!

In life, in love, in peace, in heav'n, and more
Than ever ſaint or holy prophet feign'd,
Or daring virtue in the dying hour,
O ſee the glorious recompenſe obtain'd.

That heav'nly eye, with filial pity mov'd,
Speaks him thy ſon, in yonder robe of day
He ſpeaks'—O! now regard the voice belov'd,
The voice that ſays, or ſeems methinks to ſay.

And to my bright reverſion to the ſkies,
Are tears the all a mother can beſtow,
Why elſe laments ſhe, with unceaſing ſighs,
So ſoon renounc'd the wretched world below.

The wealth of grandeur, or the pomp of pow'r,
The dreams of folly, and the puffs of pride,
Are but the earlings of a flying hour,
And ceaſe, when death congeals the purple tide.

Not theſe, the product of unwearied toil,
Not theſe I earn'd, but treaſures all divine,
Not ſilver age, with fortune's fickle ſmile,
But golden youth, eternal pleaſure mine.

'Tis true, forc'd early from thy longing arms,
Much was I doom'd to ſuffer, far to rove:
Time, life, and fate's accumulated ſtorms,
Yet who'd not ſuffer to be bleſs'd above.

And juſt my ſuff'rings, for by theſe purſu'd,
Corrected virtue to itſelf was driv'n;
Heav'n to my faults the ample laſh beſtow'd,
And for my penitence the meed is heav'n.

Ceaſe, mother! ceaſe theſe unavailing tears,
Or weep for pleaſure, as of late for pain;
Bleſt for the preſent, and a few ſhort years
Will happ'ly join us ne'er to part again.

B. D——D.

A PASTORAL BALLAD.

WHERE the elm-trees form a grove,
Sacred to the god of love;
Where the linnet's chearful ſtrain
Hails me to my lovely Anne:

There the lonely day I mourn,
Waiting for my Love's return;
Where noon's heat the zephyrs fan,
There I ſing of lovely Anne.

On yonder bank I oft recline,
Where ſpring the wood-roſe and the bine:
There I ſigh! aſſiſt me Pan,
While I ſing of lovely Anne.

Or along the river's ſide,
Where the ſilver fiſhes glide,
There, Oh Cupid! firſt began
My paſſion for the lovely Anne.

My fair's approach afar I ſee,
She bends her willing ſteps to me;
With love's ſwifteſt foot I ran,
Joyful to meet my lovely Anne.

Written in a Blank Leaf of Dr Gregory's "FATHER'S LEGACY TO HIS DAUGHTERS."

March 21. 1779.

GO faithful mirror of ingenuous truth,
Inſtructive tablet of the virtuous mind!
Go to the toilet, and embelliſh youth
In grace of manners, and with taſte refin'd.

So to angelic chang'd, the female form
O'er rude indecency ſhall hold her laws,
The daughter riſe, in beams of ſplendour warm,
A parent's minion, and the world's applauſe.

On the Death of Mr SMEITON *Muſician.*

MOURN ilka hill and ilka dale,
Nae ſhepherd mair need tune a reed;
Will auld Scots muſic aught avail?
Her darling SMEITON *now* is dead.

THE REVIEW.

The HISTORY *of* EDINBURGH: *By* HUGO ARNOT, *Esq; Advocate.* 4to. 1 l. 5 s. *boards.* [P. 72.]

OUR author, speaking of the religious ceremonies and customs of the ancient Scots, mentions the following curious circumstance:

"A practice grosly superstitious prevailed in the northern parts of Scotland, till the end of the sixteenth century. It fell indeed nothing short of Dæmon-worship, and was undoubtedly the remains of Paganism. Farmers left a part of their lands perpetually untilled and uncropt; this spot was dedicated to the devil, and called *the Goodman's croft* *. This monstrous superstition the church, in 1594, anxiously exerted herself to abolish. This was not the only instance in which the church testified the extremity of her abhorrence at superstition. The singing of carols at Yule (*i. e.* Christmas) was prohibited as idolatrous. Funeral sermons, and the erecting of grave-stones, were discharged as superstitious. Nay, the General Assembly ordered the church of Restalrig to be demolished, as being a *monument of idolatry.*"

In this chapter (II.) our historian investigates, with much ingenuity, the discovery and introduction of coal into Britain. He then makes some observations relative to the value of money, to which he adds, a Table of the Price of Provisions in Scotland, in ancient and modern Scottish money, from the year 1000 to 1600. The chapter concludes with an account of two Dinners of James IV. one given to the French Ambassador on Christmas day, and the other on Easter day.

Chapter III. contains a concise narrative of the various troubles which distracted this country from 1618 to 1654; a period filled with the most important occurences in our history, if broils and mischief can deserve the appellation.—The English service-book was a fresh bugbear to the people of the reformed religion: And its resemblance to the Popish mass-book confirmed their antipathy. But Charles was obstinate, and peremptory to inforce the use of it in Scotland. Accordingly,

"On Sunday the 23d of July 1637, agreeably to intimation on the preceding Sabbath, the service-book was begun to be read at Edinburgh in St Giles's church. Both the Archbishops, a number of the Privy Counsellors, the Lords of Session, the Magistrates of Edinburgh, besides a great concourse of people of inferior rank, were assembled. Among this multitude not a murmur was heard, till the Dean of Edinburgh, arrayed in his surplice, opened the service-book. Instantly a tumult arose. "Out (cries an old woman), out, thou false thief! dost thou say the mass at my lug?" But the clapping of hands, the hisses, the curses, and exclamations which immediately followed, rendered every sentence, or attempt at speech, unintelligible. The Bishop of Edinburgh, with a view to appease the tumult, ascended the pulpit; but had not a friendly hand averted the stool which was thrown at his head, that member of the Episcopal order would have been silenced for ever. The Archbishop of St Andrews, Lord Chancellor, attempted in vain to quell the uproar. At last, the Magistrates, descending from their seats, partly by flattery, by menaces, and by force, got the unruly part of the audience thrust out of the church. After which the Dean proceeded in the service; but still their devotion was disturbed by the rude multitude without, who, by raising loud clamours, rapping at the church doors, and throwing stones through the windows, attempted to interrupt the service; and, when the congregation was dismissed, the Bishop was beset by the rabble, and had well nigh fallen a sacrifice to popular fury. In the church adjoining, the liturgy was received with less uproar; but not without obvious marks of disapprobation. In the Greyfriars, it behoved the service to be given up; but the minister of the College church forbore to begin the worship, till he learned the reception of the liturgy in the neighbouring churches, when he wisely preferred the old extempore form, notwithstanding his engagement to the contrary.

"Between sermons, a meeting of the Privy Council was held, at which the Lord Provost and Magistrates assisted; and, as they engaged to exert their utmost endeavours to maintain decorum, the use of

* I. e. *The Landlord's croft.*

the liturgy was again attempted in the afternoon, and it was read in ſome of the churches without much diſturbance. Still, however, an unruly multitude rambled through the ſtreets; and public worſhip being over, the Biſhop of Edinburgh going home with the Lord Privy Seal in his coach, they were attacked by the rabble, pelted with ſtones *, and, although the coach was driven at full gallop, his Lordſhip's footmen gladly betook to their drawn ſwords to repel the fury of their aſſaults.

"Next morning a meeting of the Privy Council was held, at which the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh attending, expreſſed their deteſtation of the late uproar, and their deſire to ſeize the ringleaders, and bring them to puniſhment. To encourage the miniſters to read the liturgy, they voluntarily enacted themſelves to indemnify the clergy, if, in the execution of their duty, they ſhould ſuffer harm from the outrage of the populace. They alſo wrote two ſubmiſſive letters to Archbiſhop Laud, expreſſing their contrition for the tumult, and their alacrity to concur in any meaſures for eſtabliſhing the ſervice-book.

"As no new day was immediately reappointed for the reading of the liturgy, and, as the concluſion of the term, and the approaching harveſt, made it requiſite for the generality of people to ſuperintend their country affairs, no diſturbance happened for ſome time, and the late tumult was thought to have entirely ſubſided. But two of the miniſters of Edinburgh, who had been ſuſpended for not reading the ſervice-book on the 23d of July, began to practiſe upon the people. Loud murmurs againſt the liturgy were echoed through the city; and, when they reflected that the late violent oppoſition to it had ariſen from the very dregs of the populace, the ſtory of Balaam's aſs occurring to their imagination, made them admire the finger of the Lord, as opening the mouths of the ſimple to teſtify againſt ſuch groſs ſuperſtition. A petition from the magiſtrates and inhabitants, as well as from the ſuſpended miniſters, was preſented to the Privy Council, praying that the uſe of the liturgy might not be inſiſted on; and the harveſt being moſtly over, a great concourſe of all ranks flocked to Edinburgh, and manifeſted ſuch a ſpirit of ſedition, that there was reaſon to apprehend an immediate inſurrection.

"As the Privy Council had been ſummoned in order to treat of eccleſiaſtic affairs, to appeaſe the people, a royal proclamation was iſſued, diſcharging the Privy Council, at that time, from proceeding on the affairs of the church; and the multitude were required to diſperſe themſelves, and to repair peaceably to their dwellings. But to this part of the proclamation no obedience was paid.—Next day, as the Biſhop of Galloway was paſſing along the ſtreets, he was beſet by the populace, who firſt hooting at him with wild clamours and execrations, afterwards oppoſed him in his paſſage to the chamber where the Privy Council was ſitting. Thither he at laſt, with much difficulty, arrived; but, inſtead of meeting there with a ſecure aſylum, he found himſelf and the other Privy Counſellors beſieged by a furious rabble. The Lords of the Privy Council ſent to the magiſtrates, requeſting their aſſiſtance. But the magiſtrates ſtood in need of aſſiſtance as much as themſelves; for the diſorderly rout which beſieged the Privy Counſellors, and patroled the ſtreets, had alſo ſurrounded the town-council-chamber, where the magiſtrates were ſitting; nay, even thronged into it, and vowed their immediate deſtruction, if they would not inſtantly ſubſcribe a petition againſt the ſervice-book, and replace the ſuſpended miniſters. The Earl of Traquair, Lord Treaſurer, thinking the condition of the magiſtrates more deſperate than his own, went to their aſſiſtance from the Privy Council, where he was then ſitting. But the rabble aſſailed him with wild outcries, as predicted more forcible outrage. On all quarters there were reſounded, "God defend thoſe who will defend God's cauſe; and God confound the ſervice-book, and all its maintainers." Inſtantly the mob aſſaulted the Treaſurer, pulled off his hat and cloak, broke in pieces the white rod which he bore as the badge of his office, threw him down on the ſtreet, and, had he not inſtantly been raiſed by his attendants, who conveyed him back to the Privy Council, would undoubtedly have trodden him to death. As for the magiſtrates, they, as well as the Lords of the Privy Council, remained beſieged in

* *This memorable day was afterwards diſtinguiſhed in Edinburgh by the appellation of* Stoney Sunday. Peck's Deſiderata Curioſa, lib. 2. p. 50.

their ſeparate chambers, till, by the interpoſition of ſome popular Lords, they were reſcued from the fury of the populace.

"The tumult being ſomewhat appeaſed, in the afternoon a proclamation was iſſued, diſcharging all public convocations, and alſo private meetings, tending to ſedition. But it met with ſo little reſpect, that public deputies from the people on the next morning preſented two petitions, one in the name of the *men, women, children, and ſervants*, inhabitants of Edinburgh, againſt the ſervice-book; another in that of the nobility, gentry, miniſters, and burgeſſes, againſt both the ſervice-book and the book of canons. After this the Privy Council diſcontinued to meet at Edinburgh. The term, which had already been removed to Linlithgow, was ordered thence to Stirling, that it might be ſtill farther from the ſeditious capital: And, to repreſs tumultuous proceedings, Charles again had recourſe to the feeble authority of a proclamation. But his orders, which hitherto were treated with heedleſs contempt, now met with direct diſobedience. He experienced, for the firſt time, an act of deliberate rebellion, and that by perſons of high rank: For, when he publiſhed a proclamation at Stirling, pardoning paſt offences, and enjoining peaceable behaviour, it was encountered by the Earl of Hume, Lord Lindeſay, and great numbers of inferior rank, by a public proteſtation, in which, after ſetting forth their pretended grievances, they proteſted, that they ſhould not be liable to any penalties or forfeitures for diſobeying any orders or proclamations in favour of the book of canons or liturgy; and that they ſhould not be anſwerable for any conſequences which might happen upon inforcing theſe innovations. Wherever the King's proclamation was publiſhed, it was met by a counter-proteſt; and a regular combination was formed to oppoſe the eſtabliſhed government. The great multitude of people who aſſembled at Edinburgh, diſpoſed themſelves into different claſſes, conform to their ranks. Theſe were called *tables*; and from each of theſe reſpective tables certain commiſſioners were elected, who compoſed a general table, which reviſed the deliberations of the inferior ones, and iſſued orders that every where met with implicit obedience.

"Upon the murder of the Earl of Darnley, an aſſociation had been formed for revenging his death, and for defending the infant Prince. The murmurs which roſe among the Proteſtants at the favour which the Duke of Lennox, a Papiſt, enjoyed with James VI. occaſioned an aſſociation to be formed, 1580, for renouncing the errors of Popery*. Theſe, and perhaps alſo a recollection of the furious effects produced in France by the *Holy League*, for extirpating the Proteſtant religion, ſuggeſted to the tables the idea of framing *a Covenant*.

"This covenant conſiſted of a renunciation of Popery, expreſſed in all that virulence of invective which was calculated to inflame the minds of the people, who did not underſtand the nature of what they were renouncing, yet could comprehend the infamy of the epithets applied to the object renounced. To this there followed a bond, obliging the ſubſcribers to reſiſt all religious innovations, and to defend each other againſt every oppoſition whatever; and all this for the glory of God, and the advantage of their King and country; the whole concluding with invoking the moſt tremendous imprecations upon ſuch as ſhould deſert the covenant. The people being aſſembled for the purpoſe in the Greyfriars church-yard, the covenant was ſolemnly read aloud to them. All ranks and conditions, all ages and ſexes, flocked to † ſubſcribe it, with that ardour, as if they believed the inſertion of their names in this parchment ſcroll did virtually inroll them in the book of life. The deſire towards the covenant did not ſo much originate like a diſeaſe ſpringing from the unſoundneſs of the individual, as from the influence of powerful conta-

* *This was called the* Negative Confeſſion of Faith, *in oppoſition to the* poſitive *one, aſcertaining the Proteſtant doctrines eſtabliſhed in* 1567. James VI. parl. 1. c. 4. Baker's Chron. p 460.

† *The original copy of the Covenant is written on a ſkin of parchment four feet long, and three feet eight inches deep. It is ſo crouded with names on both ſides, that there is not the ſmalleſt ſpace left. Some were ſo zealous as to add to their ſubſcriptions*, till death. *And when there was no longer room for ſubſcribing at length, the eager votaries of the covenant filled the margin of the deed with their initials. Copies of it were ſent from Edinburgh, and ſubſcribed over all the kingdom.*

gion. Few, in their habits, were diſpoſed to reſiſt it. Fewer ſtill durſt avow their diſinclination towards it; and, if any were ſo hardy, they were compelled by menaces, and by various injuries, to embrace it, or otherwiſe were turned out of their paſtoral cures, or other offices which they enjoyed."

[*To be continued.*]

A SERMON *delivered to a Congregation of Proteſtant Diſſenters, at* Hackney, *on the* 10*th of February, &c. By* Richard Price, *D. D.* 1*s.* Cadell, London.

FROM the deſtruction of Sodom, and the adjacent country, the author takes occaſion to inculcate this important inſtruction, that the providence of God guides the courſe of nature; and that his love of righteouſneſs and hatred of iniquity are the ſprings of all the bleſſings enjoyed by nations, and of all the calamities which befal them. In the latter part, where he proceeds more immediately to the conſideration of the text, Gen. xviii. 32. he ſets before his readers the chief particulars in the character of thoſe righteous men who are a bleſſing to their country; and points out the neceſſary dependence of the ſalvation of a country on ſuch characters.

In deſcribing the righteous citizen, he tells us, that "the ſovereignty in every country belongs to the people; and that it is a ſad miſtake to think, that private men have nothing to do with the adminiſtration of public affairs, or that there are *myſteries* in civil government, of which they are not judges."

Here we beg leave to aſk, how the ſovereignty of a country can properly belong to the people, when they have tranſferred it to the care and conduct of a ſovereign? How a private man can immediately interfere in the adminiſtration of public affairs, when he has conſigned all his power to a repreſentative in parliament? Or how every little factious politician in ordinary life can be a competent judge of the great and extenſive operations of government, or expect to be made acquainted with the ſchemes of the cabinet? If every man were to aſſume the ſeat of judgment, and take upon him the ſuperintendence of public power, all order would be confounded, and every end of government defeated.

"In the laſt war, ſays our author, I remember, that only the loſs of Minorca threw the kingdom into a commotion, which coſt an Admiral his life, and produced a change of meaſures. But now, though in a condition *unſpeakably worſe*, the kingdom is inſenſible. The ſame meaſures go on; the ſame miniſters direct theſe meaſures."

In the firſt place, the ſtate of the nation is not ſo deſperate as this ill-boding augur pretends. In the next place, it muſt be allowed, that no human foreſight can guard againſt the common errors of humanity; and laſtly, there is not the leaſt ground to imagine, that public affairs would be more ably conducted in any other hands.

The truth is, the crown muſt relinquiſh all claim to the dominion of America, before certain diſaffected and diſcontented patriots can be ſatisfied. But it is to be hoped, that ſuch a tame, ſuch a cowardly, ſuch an inglorious reſignation, will never diſgrace the annals of the preſent reign.

Theſe righteous patriots, it ſeems, hope to find "a *Zoar*, or an *Ark*, from whence they may view the ſtorm," and eſcape from the ruin of this country. "Methinks, ſays our author, the friends of truth and virtue may now look acroſs the Atlantic, and entertain ſome ſuch hope."

On this paſſage we ſhall only remark, that we wiſh them a ſpeedy voyage to this happy aſylum; that their departure, before the commencement of the war, would have been no detriment to this kingdom; and that moſt probably we ſhould not have envied their ſituation, if America had obtained its expected independency. C.

An Eſſay on the Toleration of Papiſts. 8*vo.* 1*s.* Dodſley, London.

THE deſign of this eſſay is to ſhew that, while liberty remains a public bleſſing, religious toleration muſt be conſidered as a meaſure highly conducive to the general intereſt; and that religious and civil freedom have nothing to fear from the indulgence which government has lately ſhewn its Roman Catholic ſubjects.

The author ſays, that he never wiſhes to ſee a repetition of the ſlaviſh ſuperſtitions and encroachments of Rome; but the ſituation of the world, he thinks, is not at preſent expoſed to them.

The author contents himſelf with a few general reflections; but this eſſay is written with elegance, and ſhews an enlarged, liberal, and manly turn of thought.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thurſday, March 25.

On a Motion for the Proceedings of the Admiralty relative to the Trial of Sir Hugh Palliſer *to be laid before the Houſe.*

THE *DUKE of RICHMOND* roſe, and ſaid he held a ſummons in his hand, which had been iſſued for the purpoſe of aſſembling the witneſſes on the approaching trial of Sir Hugh Palliſer. If this trial, he obſerved, was to take place, he ſhould wiſh, that it might be indeed a trial, and not the fallacious reſemblance of one, tricked up to deceive the world. He began however to entertain apprehenſions that this would be the caſe; apprehenſions ariſing from a variety of circumſtances, and more particularly from the tenor of the ſummons which he then held in his hand. It ran thus:—"That you —— "do give your attendance on the 12th of "March enſuing, to give evidence on the "trial of Vice-admiral Sir Hugh Palliſer, "for his conduct on the 27th of July, "1778, *when the Engliſh and French fleets* "*were engaged.*"

The noble Duke objected ſtrongly to the concluding words. He ſaid they limited the Court to a partial inveſtigation of Sir Hugh Palliſer's conduct,—merely to the time of abſolute action. This was an exceeding unfair thing; for it had never entered into the idea of any one, nor had any circumſtance occurred in the courſe of Admiral Keppel's trial, which could ſuggeſt the moſt remote reaſon for annexing criminality to that gentleman during that particular period. It was previous to the action, and ſubſequent to it, that Sir Hugh Palliſer had given grounds, as he believed, of juſt accuſation againſt his character, and it was into them it ought certainly to be the duty of the Court to enquire, and not into that part of his conduct where he ſtood in the eſtimation of every one, not only as devoid of guilt, but as a perſon deſerving highly of his country. There was another circumſtance he wiſhed to enquire into, how the charge was to be made againſt Sir Hugh Palliſer; he underſtood that no charge, neither ſpecific nor otherwiſe, had been prepared againſt him, but that all that the Admiralty had done, or intended to do, was to tranſmit the minutes of the late Court-martial to the members that ſhould compoſe the impending court, and leave it to them to ſelect ſuch articles as ſhould in their judgment demand the moſt particular inveſtigation, and which ſhould carry with them the higheſt degree of apparent criminality.—This was a mode of proceeding, in his opinion, totally repugnant to every idea of legal practice, and common equity; for it at once embarraſſed the judges in a complicated accuſation, that they might probably not be unanimous in arranging, and ſubjected the priſoner to the greateſt inconvenience, as it precluded the poſſibility of previous preparation. He did not wonder that Sir Hugh Palliſer had requeſted a delay of his trial for a few days, —a few years would be inadequate to the purpoſe of ſupplying him with every kind of prior defence, under ſuch circumſtances. His Grace then concluded with a motion, "That the proceedings of the Admiralty, relative to the trial of Admiral Sir Hugh Palliſer, be laid before the Houſe."

Lord Sandwich replied to the noble Duke, and ſaid it was by no means the wiſh or intention of the Admiralty that Sir Hugh Palliſer ſhould undergo only the appearance of a trial.—Every part of the proceedings which had been practiſed in the caſe of Admiral Keppel had been adopted in the preſent inſtance, as far as difference of circumſtances would permit. —The Admiralty, immediately on the concluſion of the late trial, where ſufficient matter of accuſation had appeared, ſent word to Sir Hugh Palliſer that he was to be tried; they could not do it ſooner, becauſe before then they could have no foundation for the notion of his having, in any reſpect, neglected his duty: they afterwards appointed a day; and as it was out of their power and juriſdiction to inſtitute the charges themſelves, they had, as was uſual in theſe caſes, determined to ſend down the whole of the minutes of Admiral Keppel's trial to the Court when aſſembled, ſo that the Judges might adopt ſuch articles for examination as might ſeem proper to them. All that was expected, or could be adduced againſt Sir Hugh Palliſer, was contained in theſe minutes, and the members of the Court would have the opportunity and the power to interrogate to every part of it, and by that means, wherever guilt ſhould appear, to probe and detect it. If the Admiralty was to take the office on

themſelves of drawing up a charge, the perſon accuſed muſt go to his trial under a prejudice, becauſe he muſt in ſome degree have been condemned by them by anticipation, in determining that there were in ſome parts of his behaviour good grounds for ſuſpicion of miſconduct. As for the words in which the ſummons had been conceived, he rather apprehended that another interpretation might be put upon it, different from that annexed by the noble Duke, and that it might be conſtrued to embrace all the interval during which that action might be ſaid to be pending, which would include ſome time before and ſome time after the actual engagement. He was very certain there was no concerted deſign, nor any with to ſcreen the enquiry.

The Duke of Richmond roſe again, and aſked if there were any precedents where a man had been brought to trial without a charge.

Lord Sandwich ſaid, that in the caſe of Mathews and Leſlock, parliament gave an order for their being tried, and the Admiralty, in conſequence of that order, convened a court, and tranſmitted ſuch inſtructions as they were able, without making a charge. In the caſe of Admiral Byng, the King gave the order for a trial, and he was tried without any charge produced in form againſt him by the Admiralty.

The Duke of Richmond contended, that the examples were not in point, becauſe in the firſt caſe there was one man againſt another; and in the other, Admiral Byng had been tried for breach of inſtruction, which circumſtance itſelf conſtituted a charge. His Grace then repeated, with increaſed eloquence and energy, the injuſtice and inconvenience which muſt reſult from ſo informal a proceeding, as bringing a man before a court, on a cauſe of life and death, without producing a charge. He would not admit that the firſt Lord of the Admiralty could not know whether Sir Hugh Palliſer had been guilty of any miſconduct previous to his hearing the account of the proceedings of the late trial at Portſmouth. He certainly might have known, and he ought to have known. Admiral Keppel had ſent Capt. Faulknor with a meſſage, which made it a duty in him to enquire.

An altercation took place here on the propriety or impropriety of Lord Sandwich's conduct, with reſpect to the meſſage alluded to. The noble Earl himſelf ſaid it was impoſſible that the ſmalleſt iota of guilt could be fairly annexed to him on that account; for that he had put to captain Faulknor, on his arrival with the news, an immenſe variety of queſtions, inſomuch as to exhauſt his fancy entirely on the ſubject; every thing that had occurred to him he aſked; it did not occur to him to aſk whether or not Sir Hugh Palliſer had acquitted himſelf well—Why ſhould it occur to him? why was he to entertain a doubt on the ſubject? He found that Gentleman perſonally praiſed in the Admiral in chief's letter. He had always had reaſon to think highly of his courage and profeſſional ſkill, and therefore it was the moſt diſtant thing in his idea to put a queſtion of enquiry into a ſubject, concerning which he had ſo many reaſons to entertain a fixed opinion. As for the meſſage itſelf, he conſidered it merely as the uſual ceremony on ſuch occaſions, and annexed no notion of peculiarity to it at all. In compliance indeed with what he thought his duty, he wrote to Admiral Keppel, and requeſted to know if any addition or improvement was wanting in the fleet in which he could aſſiſt him; if there was, he would meet the honourable Admiral at Portſmouth, and conſult for the ſupply in concert with him. He received a very civil reply to this letter, wherein he was thanked for his politeneſs, but informed, that in the opinion of his honourable correſpondent, as much good might be effected at home.

It was argued on the other hand by the *Dukes of Richmond* and *Grafton*, that the meſſage ſent by Capt. Faulknor was of a particular kind, and ought therefore to have been particularly attended to. The noble Lord, it was affirmed, had a conſciouſneſs of its being peculiar in ſending afterwards ſuch a letter as he did to Admiral Keppel, and he ought not to have ſuppoſed what might be that honourable Admiral's intention in his meſſage, but to have fairly aſked him what it was.

Lord Chancellor then recurred to the ſubject, and ſaid, there was not the leaſt reaſon for ſo much preciſion in a mere ſummons for a witneſs, as to let him know, that he was to be preſent on ſuch an occaſion; it was ſufficient to ſay he was to attend, although but one half of the buſineſs to which he was afterwards examined ſhould be contained in his ſubpœna. He thought the queſtion premature at preſent, who was to draw the charge, as it did not ariſe immediately from the ſub-

ject before them. He declined therefore pronouncing at that time any decisive opinion.

Lord Shelburne took a review of the proceedings relative to Admiral Keppel's trial, and its consequences. He said it was ordered in a hasty and suspicious manner; that it had opened the eyes of mankind fully upon the subject of the 27th of July; that till that trial, his mind was never made up as to the affair; that he always thought great blame was due somewhere, and though Mr Keppel was his friend, and a man he had long lived with in friendship, that he had freely expressed his doubts as to his conduct, when he first heard that we had lost so glorious an opportunity of giving a turn to the whole war. That the failure was, in fact, ascribable to the Board of Admiralty. That the formation of the fleet originally was vicious; that every man possessed of the smallest political knowledge, must know, that to send out a Commander in Chief, whose sentiments on national points were adverse to Administration, and to send out under him a Vice-admiral of another way of thinking, and a Lord of the Admiralty, could produce no good, but might possibly produce much mischief. That it had so turned out. That ambition was a powerful motive, and would operate injuriously to the service, when officers of a different way of thinking were sent out together. That it was the very circumstance which had done so much mischief in the French army all last war. That it was impossible for any plans to prosper under the present First Lord of the Admiralty. That the office was the most active in all the departments of Government, and ought not to be filled by a man, who, when matters of the most important nature were passing, either was out of the way, or otherwise employed; and when called upon to speak to those matters, could only reply, "I don't know—I can't tell—I really never heard—I know nothing of the matter." That the President of the Admiralty Board should be a professional man, and not a nobleman, who hardly knew what a ship was; or, knowing a little, thought he knew enough about the duties of his office. He had better know nothing, for a little knowledge in such a situation was a very dangerous thing. A seaman ought always in the time of war to preside at the head of the Admiralty. He had heard a noble Earl, a great Statesman, lately deceased, say again and again, that the heads of the three great departments of the State should always be professional men; the three professions should chuse them from among themselves, and unless their voice was with them, it was idle to expect any good to the State. It was as ridiculous for the noble Lord to continue at the head of the Admiralty, as it would be for the Lord Chancellor to take the command of the army.

His Lordship remarked on the consequences of the late trial; it had ended, he said, in the dismission, or tantamount to it, of a very great officer, and that had been followed by the dismission or resignation of many other brave officers. Did not every body know of the alarming circumstance of a long list, and a strong remonstrance, which had been drawn up, though it had not been delivered? Was it not a matter of notoriety who had signed it? The whole of that affair would bear but two interpretations; it was either the most proper step or the most criminal step that could possibly be adopted. He had lately met, he declared, with many friends of Admiral Keppel, gallant officers, whom at first he did not know, as they had altered their dress, and appeared in brown and green coats. He had asked them the reason, and they told him, they imagined they should never be employed again. All this was matter of alarm, and matter that created great uneasiness in his mind. The fate of England might possibly depend on the naval events of the ensuing summer; it behoved ministers therefore to be exceedingly careful what persons they employed to command the fleet. He did not like canvassing the characters of officers in that house, nor did he mean any reflection whatever, but the stake was a great one, and it ought to be very carefully played.

Lord Chesterfield said a few words in reply to that part of the noble Lord's speech which related to Admiral Keppel's being dismissed, and asked in what manner ministers were to act with officers who expressly refused to serve under them. His Lordship also asked, whether such a refusal was a proof of their love for their country, or a proof that they gave themselves up wholly to party and faction? His Lordship concluded with declaring, that as he knew of no compulsive power which ministers had to oblige offi-

ers to ſerve, who would not ſerve, he did not think it right to accuſe miniſters of having turned ſuch officers out of the ſervice.

Lord Shelburne replied, and would not allow that he had accuſed miniſters in any ſuch manner. His Lordſhip went over a part of his ſpeech again.

The Lord Preſident juſt roſe to take notice of a particular paſſage in Lord Shelburne's ſpeech, which, if not contradicted, might make an improper impreſſion without doors, and that was the aſſertion that a lately deceaſed Earl had repeatedly laid it down, that the heads of the three great departments ſhould be profeſſional men. If the Earl had ſaid ſo, his words and his actions did not correſpond; it was notorious that he had, in his lifetime, made a land-man firſt Lord of the Admiralty.

Lord Shelburne allowed that the noble Earl had once made his brother-in-law a firſt Lord of the Admiralty, but he ſaid that was to comply with the politics of the times. That the Earl was a man of great wiſdom and experience, and knew how to ſuit his meaſures to the ſituation of affairs. That ſhortly afterwards he made Lord Anſon firſt Lord, becauſe he was a great ſeaman, although he had been exceedingly hoſtile to him. This promotion, he contended, ſhewed the Earl's good ſenſe, and did him infinite honour. He bid the noble Earl likewiſe remember, that the deceaſed Earl had called that induſtrious ſeaman Sir Charles Saunders, and that great character Lord Hawke, to the Preſidency of the Admiralty Board. It was evident therefore that his idea was juſt as he had ſtated it to be.

The motion was read and ordered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sequel of GOVERNOR JOHNSTONE'S SPEECH *in the Debate in the* HOUSE OF COMMONS *on Monday, March* 22. *on Mr* FOX'S MOTION *for a Vote of Cenſure on Adminiſtration for not ſending out a Reinforcement earlier laſt year to* LORD HOWE *at* NEW-YORK. [P. 80.]

I SHALL now proceed to examine the other poſitions laid down by the noble Lord, and the ſubſequent conduct he held relative to thoſe tranſactions, as far as they refer to the ſubject now before us.—I know how juſtly high the character of the noble Lord ſtands for naval reputation; no man could eſteem it in a higher degree than I did myſelf, before the tranſaction I am going to ſpeak of. Perhaps my diſappointment was the greater on that account, and the eſtimate I made of the force of the enemy was leſs from the opinion I had of the Vice-admiral who commanded our fleet. I underſtand his conduct has received repeated applauſe from officers of high reputation in this Houſe, while I was abſent from ſickneſs; but this ſhall not prevent me from ſpeaking my own opinion freely on this, and every other ſubject. I have been told, the two noble Admirals have been pouring incenſe on each other's heads in very copious ſtreams. I agree they ſtand in the moſt reſpectable light, on account of their former ſervices: and I alſo agree with my friend below me, that in caſe any Miniſter has been guilty of any improper conduct, that has driven ſuch men from the ſervice of the ſtate at this critical moment, when the exertions of all good men are ſo much wanted to repel the common enemy, that ſuch a Miniſter ſhould feel the indignation of this Houſe, and of their country at large. But if it ſhould appear, on the other hand, that any ſet of military men, in their ſeveral pretenſions, are become too high for the ſtate, I hope there is ſtill left in the nation virtue and ſpirit ſufficient to repel ſuch claims, and ability enough to be found in the naval department to reſiſt the power of our enemies, if they were dead.

Adminiſtration has certainly great credit in diſpatching the two packets from Falmouth, to give the noble Lord notice of the ſailing of the Toulon ſquadron; and the packet that did arrive in America having fallen in with that ſquadron, from every particular which the Captain related, it was evident to me, beyond a doubt, that they were bound to ſweep the coaſt of America, from Virginia northward.

The packet arrived the 29th of June, and certainly gave ſufficient time for every preparation to be made for receiving the enemy, who did not arrive off New York till the 11th of July. Whether thoſe preparations were made, or otherwiſe, is a queſtion I ſhall not now enter into.—I mean at preſent only to take notice of ſome aſſertions in a pamphlet that has been circulated with great induſtry, as preparatory to miſlead our judgments in the queſtion of to-day. I ſhall make but very few quotations, ſo the Houſe need not to be alarmed, leſt I ſhould read the

whole, as was done with another pamphlet in a former debate.

This performance I can hardly attribute to the noble Lord to whom it relates; it is too fulfome flattery for me to fuppofe he had any fhare in it, or that he can give it the leaft countenance now; nor fhould I have envied his Lordfhip any of the praifes beftowed by fo idolatrous an author, if he had not taken notice of fo infignificant a perfon as myfelf, and mifreprefented my opinions. His patron might have enjoyed the glory of making a bridge of boats to pafs the army over the rill that feparates Sandy-hook from the main, with the aflifiance of all the boats from fifty tal of pendants, four hundred tranfports, and two hundred flat-boats, without my interference. I am willing the Houfe fhould underftand this marvellous work was equal to every thing in ancient ftory, and even fuperior to Cæfar's bridge over the Rhine; but in that part which refpects myfelf, I cannot fo eafily fubmit. The author begins by making an apology for obtruding on the public "the rough, unpolifhed language of a feaman, little verfed in the elegancies of compofition, and unambitious of the praife of a brilliant diction, or the fmooth flow of well-rounded periods." I fhall read but one quotation more of this flowery turgid performance, in order to fhew that this pamphlet could never be the production of any feaman. In page 34. he fays, "Majefty itfelf was brought forward to favour the deceit, after having been firft deceived, and every meretricious artifice of pomp and fhow put in practice to cover our weaknefs, under the hands of our ftate quacks. The nation aflumed the falfe and tranfient flufh of a confumptive patient, while fhe languifhed interiorly, and her whole frame was menaced with fpeedy diffolution."

After hearing fuch bombaft, I fuppofe the Houfe are fufficiently able to judge whether any rough feaman was concerned in this narrative.

The author, after ftating the miferable, lamentable, affrighted ftuation in which we were placed at New York, proceeds in faying, page 15. "Yet a gentleman, who at that time obtruded himfelf into the fociety of thofe officers, who, in their company, was the loudeft in bewailing our deplorable ftuation, and the defperate card Lord Howe was forced to play—whofe fervices againft the Firft Lord of the Admiralty, as evidently defigning, By a delay of fuccours, to deftroy or difgrace the Vice-admiral, were the moft pointed and virulent; this gentleman now hefitates not to affert, that Lord Howe enjoyed a fuperiority over the French Commander, and fhould be accountable to the public for not having availed himfelf of this fuperiority. I write not from the information of the fhamelefs editor of the Morning Poft. That he hath hazarded this aflertion to men in power, I know from the moft refpectable authority. Yet this man was once a fea officer. The lift of both fleets lie before the public; let them anfwer this no lefs upright Commiffioner than experienced Captain. Nor can Governor Johnftone be offended, if his aflertions on this fubject be efteemed by the writer of this narrative fo rafh and ignorant, as to deferve no other refutation than what muft occur to the meaneft capacity—to thofe who are the leaft converfant in navy matters. The fame lifts fhall ftand in oppofition even to higher authority, to the authority of the great Lord who fo *worthily* prefides over the Navy department. For he *too*, from his place in Parliament, when called upon officially to quiet the fears of the people, blufhed not to have recourfe to mifinformation and *falfehood*."

Now, Sir, I affert, before you and the whole world, that what is here imputed to me by the author of this pamphlet is not true. I never obtruded myfelf into the fociety of any fet of men; the moment I heard the French fleet had appeared, I thought it my duty to go down to Sandy-hook in the night to offer my poor fervices; neither did I ever bewail our deplorable ftuation, from the circumftance of the French fquadron coming on the coaft of America. I thought it a lucky circumftance. I expreffed that fentiment to all with whom I converfed. I am glad I did not know the imminent danger we were in until I came to this city, the center of all true intelligence, otherwife I might have paffed more uneafy hours. I alfo deny that ever I afferted that Lord Howe had a fuperiority over the French fquadron when they appeared off the port of New-York. If the noble Lord can remember any thing that paffed between him and a perfon of fo little confequence as myfelf, he muft know, that fo far from entertaining that fentiment, when the noble Lord talked of going out

of the harbour to give them battle, I ſaid that I thought he was not of ſufficient force to hazard an engagement; but I always thought, with a proper diſpoſition of the force, he was fully capable of defending the entrance of the harbour. What I ſaid then, and what I aſſert now, is, that after the junction of the Cornwall of 74 guns, the Raiſonable of 64, the Renown of 50, and the Centurion of 50, all heavy metal ſhips, Lord Howe was equal, if not ſuperior, in force to the French ſquadron. I give it alſo as my opinion, with deference to better judgments, that when his Lordſhip appeared off Rhode Iſland, though he did not take the whole of his force with him, that he was fully equal to Monſ. d'Eſtaing, and I reckon in the following manner:—His fleet was the beſt manned that ever went to ſea, commanded by brave, judicious officers; the French were ill manned and ſickly, and damaged upon entering and returning through the fire of the batteries on Rhode Iſland. I ſhall read the liſt of the two ſquadrons, and the manner I claſs them:

	Guns.	Pds.			Guns.
I eſteem the Cornwall of	74	18 & 32	}	A match for the Cæſar of 74 Which was beat by the Iſis of 50	74
Eagle of and Experiment of	64 50	18 24 12 18	}	for the Languedoc of	84
Trident of and Roebuck of	64 44	18 24 9 18	}	for the Tonnant of	80
Raſonable of and Phœnix of	64 44	18 24 9 18	}	for the Guerriar of	74
Somerſet of	70	18 32		for the Hector of	74
Nonſuch of and Richmond of	64 32	18 24 12	}	for the Protecteur of	74
St Alban's of and Venus of	64 36	18 24 12	}	for the Zele of	74
Ardent of and Pearl of	64 32	18 24 12	}	for the Marſeilles of	74
Preſton of and Apollo of	50 32	12 24 12	}	for the Valiant of	74
Iſis of and Vigilant of	50 20	12 24 24	}	for the Provence of	64
Centurion of and Sphynx of	50 20	12 24 9	}	for the Fantaſque of	64
and Renown of	50	12 24	}	for the Sagitaire of (9 & 18 pounders.	50

Note. Lord Howe had, beſides theſe, the Nautilus ſloop of 18 guns, Carcaſs and Thunder bombs, Stromboli, Sulphur, and Volcano fire-ſhips, four row-gallies, and two tenders, beſides the Leviathan, capable of mounting 70 guns, and actually carrying 44 guns, left at Sandy-hook: and the Nabob and Supply, two old Eaſt India ſhips, taken into his Majeſty's ſervice, and mounting 36 guns each, and 236 men, who ſailed with the fleet, but which Lord Howe ſent to the Weſt Indies. If too weak, why leave the Leviathan behind? Why detach the Nabob and Supply? Will any ſeaman ſay that the ſhips, as they are arranged, can be deemed inferior in any point of the line? But the Languedoc was diſmaſted, and loſt her rudder in the ſtorm. The Marſeilles was diſmaſted in the ſtorm. The Cæſar was beaten by the Iſis, and driven to Boſton. The Monmouth of 64 guns, another of Byron's ſquadron, had joined Lord Howe at Sandy-hook on the 18th; yet d'Eſtaing lay at anchor in the open ſea for eight days, where he raiſed jury-maſts, within 20 leagues of Sandy-hook. Lord Howe waited from the 17th to the 24th of Auguſt before he followed, tho' he had then confeſſedly ſo ſuperior a force.

But it may be ſaid, although Lord Howe had a ſuperiority by the addition of his heavy frigates, yet it was impoſſible they could be brought to act in the diſpoſition in which I have placed them. This I admit; but at the ſame time I contend, that Lord Howe had a complete line of heavy ſhips capable of lying alongſide the French ſhips, and in half an hour's action every one knows the line of battle muſt be broken, when all the frigates could have come to have acted to the utmoſt of their force. If this is not admitted, it would be impoſſible for Lord Howe, or any other officer, to have availed himſelf of the advantage of any number of larger ſhips; for ſuppoſing his frigates had been all 50 gun ſhips, ſtill no greater number than the ſhips oppoſed to the enemy's line can act at the beginning, until they are broken and ſcattered, which muſt always happen, as I ſaid before, in half an hour in every ſea engagement. The generality of mankind are confounded in their opinions by the weight of metal, and number of guns ſtated, without knowing the real circumſtances attending thoſe apparent diſproportions. I reckon an Engliſh 64 gun ſhip a match for any 74 gun ſhip out of France. The difference

between the actual force of two ſuch ſhips is not ſo much as people imagine. They generally count the difference of 10 guns, but in fact the difference upon the real efficient batteries is only two guns; the reſt ariſes from the guns on the quarter-deck and forecaſtle, which are light, and are not of ſuch conſequence, and are often in the way of working the ſhip. Reſpecting the weight of metal, I think the Engliſh 64 has a great advantage over the French 74. Experience has convinced me, that the French 36 pounder (equal to our 42 pounder) is a gun that cannot be managed ſufficiently quick. Whatever gun is above the ſize of being loaded by one man to a ſponge, and breeched about by one man to a handſpike, I eſteem too large for action. I believe the 18 and 24 pounders, which all our 64 gun ſhips carried, to be the fitteſt guns for uſe in a cloſe engagement; the quickneſs of their fire, and the certainty of pointing them well and eaſily, does more than compenſate for the difference of damage when they hit. I do not ſay this will be the caſe in an engagement like Mr Keppel's, on contrary tacks, where the ſhips come up ſcattered, and the enemy have time to load again before they meet. Here the heavy grape-ſhot does great miſchief to the ſails and rigging.—I could give many proofs in the hiſtory of naval engagements, that my opinion is juſtified by experience, nor do I know any inſtance where it can be contradicted upon any trial that has been made.—Theſe, Sir, are the opinions which I am ready to avow, but which I ſhould not have offered to the Houſe, if the pamphlet I have read had not quoted them untruly. I acknowledge I have frequently repeated theſe ſentiments to all my acquaintance, both here and at New-York; but I have never preſſed them upon any of the Members of Adminiſtration, with whom I have had very little converſation on the ſubject; and whenever I have mentioned them to others, I have always ſpoken my ſentiments as I do now, with due deference for the character of the noble Lord, and a proper diffidence in my own judgment: at the ſame time I have a certain conviction in my own mind of the truth of what I advance.

I am ſtill at a loſs to know whether the noble Lord himſelf really thought his ſquadron was inferior in force to that of Monſ. d'Eſtaign. I have never heard this aſſerted by any officer who ſerved in the fleet. I have always heard it alledged that his Lordſhip was manœuvring for the wind, and meant to give d'Eſtaign battle, but was prevented by the ſtorm. If ſo, I conclude he expected to defeat his opponent, which would have proved his ſuperiority; and I ſincerely believe this would have been the caſe had the two ſquadrons engaged.

As to all the dreadful conſequences of famine, or ſurrender of the army, which the noble Lord has enumerated, ſuppoſing Monſ. d'Eſtaign had got poſſeſſion of Sandy-hook, I cannot ſubſcribe to them in the extent he has ſtated. I have been informed, that by driving Long Iſland there would have been found ſix months ſubſiſtence for the troops, beſides the various means of obtaining ſupplies through the Sound, while the blockade of the port could not have continued without relief above ſix or eight weeks at moſt.

As to the manner in which this motion has been ſupported by my honourable friend who moved it, although I ſhall vote with him on the queſtion being put, yet I cannot agree in the reaſons he has given to induce others to join with us. I vote for the reaſons I have given myſelf, and not for any he has uttered; indeed I cannot help remarking, that my honourable friend, who is the cloſeſt reaſoner I ever knew, and the moſt accurate relater of any fact in the courſe of his argument, has, in my apprehenſion, failed in both theſe particulars this day. He admits that his premiſes are falſe, and yet he ſays, that thoſe who voted on the former queſtion, and the Members of Adminiſtration in particular, who alledged we had 42 ſhips of the line ready laſt ſpring, are bound to vote with him now; or, in other words, all that voted the one way before are bound to vote the other way now. This is a curious method of obtaining a majority; and notwithſtanding the explanation of this figure of rhetoric by his eloquent friend, that we are catched in the two horns of a dilemma, I acknowledge my ſtupidity in not comprehending the force of this manner of reaſoning, or the propriety of a motion coming from a man who admits the principal fact on which he founds his concluſion to be falſe. My argument is different; for I maintain, whether we had 42 ſhips of the line ready, or a leſſer number, the ſafety of our army and the ſecurity of our affairs in North America demanded we ſhould have run the riſk of ſending off a ſmall detachment to Lord Howe.

The matter of fact which my honourable friend has misquoted, respects the proposals for the basis of treating in the first letter from the Commissioners to the Congress. After stating that the Commissioners had renounced all, which by the bye is the best reason I have heard for his favourite doctrine of yielding independence, he alledges we had specifically offered a free trade with all the world. Now the words of the Commissioners letter upon that article are, "To extend every freedom to trade that our respective interests can require;" by which it is plain the subject was open to a full discussion of the Congress.

It is true, in a subsequent declaration which I did not sign, the other Commissioners say, "They were authorised and desirous to extend every freedom to trade."

But this enumeration has a clear reference to the specific words in the first letter, and I can declare for one, it never was my intention to admit of foreign ships trading to the ports of North America; but I meant, as far as our powers extended, to remove every unnecessary clog on the commerce of the Americans, many of which restraints I believe to exist without any benefit to this nation.

Before I sit down, there is one word in the motion which I shall move to amend: it is the epithet gross. I think the motion will run in a more dignified parliamentary stile without it, and I hate gross epithets in public proceedings. With respect to the other motion that is to follow, I cannot conceive upon what principle of consistency it can be moved by the same person who proposes the present motion. I cannot be of opinion, that the Ministers were to blame for not sending a fleet to Gibraltar, and a reinforcement to North America at the same time. They ought to have done the one or the other, I admit, but not both; and whoever moves a censure on their conduct, should chuse which of the two he prefers as the measure they ought to have adopted. I shall therefore hope my honourable friend will not offer his motion to the House, or in case he does, that it may be rejected.

LORD HOWE'S *Answer to* GOVERNOR JOHNSTONE'S *Speech, with the Governor's Reply.*

LORD HOWE said, from what the honourable Gentleman had thrown out relative to the pamphlet, it was pretty evident he either thought that he had been concerned in writing it, or that it was written with his cognizance: he assured the honourable Gentleman that neither was the case; he had not seen, nor had he heard of the pamphlet, till it was received by him at his country house; he did, however, guess at the author, for whom he would say thus much: that his assertion relative to the honourable Gentleman was so far near the truth, that, when he was in America, he had been told that the honourable Gentleman had there said he thought him superior in force to Monsr. d'Estaing. The honourable Gentleman had now declared to the House, that his fleet was excellently manned. He begged leave to assert the contrary; his fleet was very far from being well manned; it was true, when the alarm of the Toulon squadron being near the Hook was first given, all sorts of persons, many who had been to sea, and many who had never been on ship-board, came down with the greatest alacrity, and offered their services on board the fleet; he should be ungrateful in the highest degree, if he did not give them infinite credit for their spirited conduct on the occasion; but he should be unworthy to hold a naval command, if he deemed ships so filled ships well manned. The consequence proved it; for each time he put to sea, and sailed after d'Estaing, his sick increased amazingly, and he was obliged to land them, once upwards of 360 at a time, in order for their recovery, and to prevent those who were well on board the fleet from being encumbered, in case of an action, which was what they expected every day. Indeed, as he went out expressly to fight d'Estaing, and as the fleets were on the point of engaging, when Monsr d'Estaing suddenly altered his course, and bearing away to the southward, was soon, from the state of the weather, out of sight, the honourable gentleman had no right to say, that every thing was not done that the nature of affairs would admit, to bring the Toulon squadron to action. The honourable gentleman had, by tacking frigates to small ships, and by matching joint parts of our fleet against the large ships of the Toulon squadron, accounted to the House for his argument, that we were at least equal to Monsr. d'Estaing. It certainly was a very pretty line of battle upon paper, but if the French would have suffered us so to have picked and chosen our

ſtations in a real action at ſea, they would deſerve to be laughed at by every maritime power, and to be degraded as officers in the eyes of all mankind. The honourable gentleman had formerly been to ſea; he could only ſay it was ſo long ſince, that he ſeemed to have forgotten his profeſſion. The honourable gentleman, however, very ſtrenuouſly contended, that what he told the Houſe was unqueſtionable, and that he was convinced, in his own mind, that the noble Lord might have fought Monſ. d'Eſtaing to advantage. He declared he was of a very contrary opinion; he would have fought him, and done all in his power to obtain an advantage, becauſe he ſaw moſt clearly that the ſafety of the army depended entirely upon either beating the Toulon ſquadron, or ſo far crippling the French ſhips, as to render their failing to ſome port to refit neceſſary, and poſſibly he might have gained his end; but if he had, he was convinced, it would have been more owing to good conduct, and to the valour of his officers, and the ſpirit and alacrity of the ſeamen, than to any equality in point of ſtrength. The honourable gentleman had aſſerted that New-York was able to defend itſelf; that the fleet might have been hauled up the river, and the banks lined with men to annoy the enemy, and at leaſt keep them off till Admiral Byron came to the aſſiſtance of the whole:—New-York, the mere port of New York, was totally out of the queſtion; it was not worth a moment's conſideration; the army was the object to be taken care of, and if the fleet had been ſo hauled up the river, what was to become of all the victualling tranſports from Great Britain and elſewhere, of the packets, and a variety of other veſſels daily to be expected, and materially neceſſary to be provided for? He, in theſe and every other point, thought very differently from the Hon. Gentleman; the two opinions were in the judgment of the Houſe; they would doubtleſs weigh them properly, and conſider them as the opinion of *Captain* Johnſtone, oppoſed to that of *Admiral*—perhaps the moſt inſignificant in the whole liſt of Admirals—Admiral Lord Howe.

The Hon. Gentleman talked in rather a harſh manner of officers refuſing to ſerve; he had only to ſay, that his ſervices were ever at the command of his country: but when he found the Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty were oppoſing all their power to his credit as an officer, he thought it not ſafe for him as a man who regarded his honour to hold his command; and as every Gentleman muſt ſee the miſchief which was likely to ariſe, where there exiſted a jealouſy between the Miniſters and the Officers in important ſituations, in which mutual confidence was indiſpenſably neceſſary, he thought he did his country beſt ſervice by retiring, and leaving his poſt to be occupied by men not ſo unfortunately circumſtanced as he had found himſelf.

Governor Johnſtone, in reply to what the noble Lord had ſaid, declared, although he was no more than *Captain* Johnſtone, that he would not give up his experience to *Admiral* Howe, or any other Admiral whatever; he had ſeen as much ſervice as the noble Lord, and had been in more battles. What he had offered relative to the affair between the Engliſh and French fleets, on the arrival of the latter off Sandy-Hook, he ſubmitted to the Houſe as his opinion; an opinion not theoretically formed, but founded on profeſſional knowledge; nothing that had fallen from the noble Lord had afforded him the leaſt reaſon for altering his ſentiments, and he ſo far differed from the noble Lord, that, inſtead of refuſing to ſerve in this moment of public exigency, he would take any command that ſhould be offered to him: many Gentlemen in that Houſe well knew that, at the commencement of the American war, he would not have accepted of any employ againſt that country, becauſe he thought the war unjuſt in its end, and oppreſſive in its principle and mode of carrying on: the caſe was now materially altered; this country had done every thing which became her to convince America of her readineſs to act, reſpecting the United States, with lenity, with moderation, and with juſtice. France had perfidiouſly broken her treaties, and ſeduced America into an offenſive league againſt Great Britain; in ſuch a criſis, it behoved every man who felt properly for the injured honour of his country, to ſtep forward and offer his ſervices; he, for one, was ready to exert his utmoſt abilities in any capacity that Government might think proper to employ him. If his country called for his ſervices, ſo far from attempting to preſcribe the condition upon which he would ſerve, he would accept even the command of a BUM-BOAT!

[*Notes to Correſpondents deferred for want of room.*]